

Reader feedback

"They (unions) are not as important as in the past, but they still serve a purpose," said Dan Furlano. See page 2 for more.



Duty in Afghanistan Baumholder Soldiers get refresher training on Afghan soil. See



Ring action Boxers duke it out at Wiesbaden competition. See page 19.

erald Union

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Photo by Jameelah Arcila

Sharing in the spirit of Fasching

Members of the 1st Armored Division Band march in Wiesbaden's Fasching Parade March 6 joining their German counterparts in celebrating the season. The band performs a free concert at the Wiesbaden Kurhaus April 3 at 4 p.m. Tickets are available at the Wiesbaden Tourist Information Office at Marktplatz 1.

Survivor Outreach Services

Supporting and caring for those left behind

By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch a father or mother. Commander of the Installation Management Command

I commanded the 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart as part of the surge in Iraq in 2007-8. During that time, 153 Soldiers died in combat, in a place on the battlefield where I put them. I pray for those Soldiers and their families every day. Their loss is something I have to live with. For any leader, the loss of a Soldier hits hard. But the loss that survivors experience is much deeper and wider, because they have lost not just a Soldier, but a friend, a son or daughter, a husband or wife,

When I visit installations, I meet with those who have lost loved ones on active duty. I make sure to talk

with survivors for two reasons. One reason is that now, as the commander of Installation Management Command, I need to know how we are doing with one of our newest programs, Survivor Outreach Services. The other reason is that survivors need to know that the Army recognizes and honors their Soldier's service and sacrifice.

The best, most meaningful



thing we can do to honor our fallen Soldiers is to support and care for those they left behind. Survivor Outreach Services was established in

April 2008 to do just that, in a more comprehensive manner than ever before.

The Army is fortunate to have a leader such as Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr., who had the vision and compassion to propel the effort to support survivors beyond casualty assistance alone. Casualty assistance of-

> See Survivor Outreach on page 4

New Army Lodge

Wiesbaden celebrates quality-of-life upgrade

Bv Karl Weisel U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Military and civilian officials used a giant pair of scissors to cut the ribbon to officially open the Army's newest quality-oflife enhancement in U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden March 2.

Long in the making, the grand opening of the Wiesbaden Army Lodge marked the

See Army Lodge on page 5



Photo by Karl Weisel

Wiesbaden Army Lodge Manager James Weber (from left); Col. Jeffrey Dill, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander; Lt. Col. John Drew, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Europe District, deputy commander; Dr. Helmut Müller, Wiesbaden's lord mayor; and Professor Dr. Luise Hoelscher, undersecretary for the Hessen Ministry of Finance, cut a ribbon to mark the grand opening of the new lodge March 2.



Photo by Karl Weisel

Celebrating a milestone

Rene Raab, project foreman with the Züblin company, raises a toast during the Richtfest (topping out ceremony) at the new U.S. Army Europe Command and Battle Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield March 10. The traditional ceremony marked another step forward in the construction of the \$119 million facility which was launched in January 2010 and is expected to be completed by summer of 2012.

Warrior Adventure Quest ... See page 19

Commentary

Feedback: How important are unions in the U.S. today?



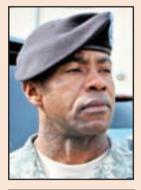
Wenona Ealy U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Army Substance Abuse Program

"To get rid of unions would give employers too much power."



Chris Pittman **Baumholder Education Services**

"I think they are not as important now as they were some 40 years ago when workers' rights needed representation.'



Sgt. 1st Class Delroy Barnett Special Troops Battalion, 1st **Armored Division**

"I think unions are like the military because they look out for the interests of workers in a special way."



Mary Johnston Baumholder Army Community Service

"They can be useful in the transition for changing working conditions; they advocate that employees' needs are considered."



Capt. James Thomas Special Troops Battalion, 1st **Armored Division**

"They're losing their importance. They were important when working conditions were more oppressive, but now are bigger than the original purpose."

Comprehensive Community Fitness

Tips of the month

This month Comprehensive Community Fitness focuses on physical health — specifically nutrition and brain injury awareness

From the health clinics to employee assistance programs. the Wiesbaden and Baumholder garrisons offer services and programs designed to keep Soldiers, family members and civilians physically fit.

Below are some comprehensive fitness tips from area pillar champions:

Physical: Whether suffered on a sports field or the battle field, a concussion is a brain injury. March is Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month and Army medical facilities in Europe are encouraging Soldiers and their families to learn the warning signs of TBI - memory loss, mood swings, dizziness, constant headaches and ringing in the ears. Visit www.dcoe.health.mil for more information.

Emotional: Is your relationship with food a source of stress? Ever worry about how emotions can have an effect on the way you eat? Department of Defense civilians can find help exploring these issues through the Employee Assistance Program. In Wiesbaden call mil 337-6958 or civ (0611) 705-6958. In Baumholder call mil 485-7388/1710 or civ (06783) 6-7388.

Family: Having trouble getting your family to eat healthy? Visit www.smallstep.gov and find tips for portion control. "Forget that old rule (about not spoiling your dinner)," says the site. "If you feel hungry between meals, eat a healthy snack (in order) to avoid overeating during your next meal." The site also offers a SmallStep web link for children with guizzes and games on healthy eating.

Social: Plan an evening with a good meal and good company. Socializing with friends over a healthy and nutritional meal helps to cement good eating practices. Visit www.nutrition. gov and click on the Shopping, Cooking and Meal Planning link for options on healthy recipes.

Spiritual: "Food for thought

is something we all need to feast on to face the challenges of life," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Stephen Demien, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden. Learning to digest new ideas is important for spiritual well-being. Contact the Wiesbaden chaplain's office at mil 335-5248 or civ (4080) 248 or the Baumholder Chaplain's Office mil 485-6355 or civ (06783) 6-6355.

Encouraging all members of the Army Family — service members, civilian employees, families and military retirees - to stay fit is the aim of the commander's Comprehensive Community Fitness Program.

Log onto www.armv.mil/ csf and take the Army's Global Assessment Tool. The GAT provides immediate results with links to self-development training.

Training is interactive and interesting (parents may want to screen the modules for their minors). The assessment only takes a few minutes and can be repeated every 90 days to track changes in fitness.

Focusing on traumatic brain injuries

By Kelly Joiner Wiesbaden Health Clinic Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Case Manager

March is Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month.

Mild TBI is another word for a concussion. A concussion results from a head injury that briefly knocks you out or can make you feel confused or see stars.

Common causes of mTBI are sports injuries, falls, motor vehicle accidents and blast injuries from being downrange. Symptoms of mTBI include, but are not limited to, headache, fatigue, ringing in the ears, poor concentration, memory problems, irritability and mood swings.

Mild Traumatic Brain Injury can be prevented by wearing a seatbelt or placing

your child in an appropriate car seat when riding in a vehicle, wearing a helmet while playing sports or riding a bike and wearing military protective gear when out on a mission.

If an injury has occurred, report the incident right away, and be honest with your symptoms. Symptoms of a concussion typically go away within hours to weeks without treatment. Occasionally the symptoms do not

improve on their own.

If you find that you have symptoms of mTBI months after an injury, contact your local Military Treatment Facility

and schedule an appointment to see your provider. The military has programs set up to help service members and their families recover from mTBI.

The symptoms are not forever. Help is available. (Information courtesy of the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center. For more information visit www.DVBIC.org.)

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News and features

News flash

Peanut butter recalled

Unilever United States, Inc. has announced a limited recall of Skippy reduced fat creamy and reduced fat super chunk peanut butter spread because it may be contaminated with Salmonella. The affected product, packaged in 16.3-ounce plastic jars, has the following UPCs — 048001006812 and 048001006782 (located on the side of the jar's label below the bar code). Consumers are advised to check to see if they have the products and to dispose of them. (Courtesy of Child, Youth and **School Services**)

New 1st AD leader named

Maj. Gen. Dana J.H. Pittard, senior commander, Fort Bliss, Texas, has been selected to serve as the new 1st Armored Division commander in Fort Bliss, Texas. (DoD News)

Daylight Saving Time

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed March 26. Daylight Saving Time starts in the wee hours of the morning

Stop Loss Pay extended

The deadline for eligible service members, veterans and their beneficiaries to apply for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay has been extended to March 18. The RSLSP was established to compensate for the hardships military members encountered when their service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss Authority between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009. Eligible members or their beneficiaries may submit a claim to their respective military service in order to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a Stop Loss status. For more information visit www.defense.gov/stoploss. (DoD News)

Summer Hire Program

This year's Summer Hire Program offering summer employment for local U.S. military community youths will be held from June 20 to July 29. Family members from ages 14-22 with valid ID cards can apply to perform labor, clerical or child care work. Applications will be accepted from March 27 to May 22 at https://lnjobs.army. mil/sh/staffing/sumerhire. Call mil 334-2580 for more information.

Expert Field Medical Badge

The U.S. Army Europe, 421st Multifunctional Medical Battalion and 30th Medical Command invite units to take part in Expert Field Medical Badge qualification and testing in Grafenwöhr July 31 to Aug. 13. Those interested should contact their unit training noncommissioned officer or visit www.30thmed.army.mil/EFMB.htm.

Warrant Officer Recruiting Team

Members of the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team will conduct recruiting briefings March 29-30 at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Taunus Theater at the Hainerberg Shopping Center. Call Chief Warrant Officer 3 Grinter in the United States at civ (502) 626 0458 or Master Sgt. Phillips at civ (502) 471 9257.



Dr. Robert Schloesser, director of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation for U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden, joins Wiesbaden Soldiers in cutting a cake to kick off this year's **Army Emergency Relief** fundraising campaign. The annual campaign runs through May 15.

Photo by Karl Weisel

Time to support AER 'Contributions drive the train'

By Karl Weisel

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

A traffic accident put Staff Sgt. Brian Jenkins in the hospital for nine weeks and demolished his car.

With money extremely tight due to the additional expenses, Jenkins fell behind on his rent and alimony. The bills started piling up quickly.

Just before borrowing money from a loan shark, Jenkins ran into his first sergeant and asked for his advice. The company's senior noncommissioned officer suggested he head to Army Community Service to seek financial assistance through Army Emergency

Jenkins' story, like tens of thousands of Soldiers, retirees and family members before him, had a happy ending. AER quickly sprang into action to provide a financial cushion in the form of an interest-free loan to help the Soldier in need get back on his feet.

During this year's AER fundraising campaign, which runs through May 15, Soldiers are asked to once again "help the Army take care of its own" by giving generously.

"AER is a very important program for Soldiers, their families and retirees," said Dr. Robert Schloesser, director of the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden's Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation. "It's always supported by Soldiers. It doesn't get any Congressional funding. It's us taking care of each other.'

Schloesser, a retired Army officer who served two tours in Vietnam, described the history of the program which helps Soldiers, survivors, families and retirees in the form of grants, scholarships and

"Since its inception in 1942, AER has provided \$1.2 billion in assistance. It is a very generous program," he said, explaining that the nonprofit organization was chartered during World War II by the Secretary of War to assist the "hundreds of thousands of Americans stepping up to the bat to join the Army.'

Leary Henry, USAG Wiesbaden's AER officer, thanked everyone for their contributions last year donating \$57,000—"the most in U.S. Army Europe."

"AER helps you in the same day," said Schloesser, pointing out that almost everyone has experienced the frustration of trying to resolve a pay issue and coming up short at least once in his or her career.

"The challenge for us is to do our duty," said Schloesser. "The ball rests with every unit. ... I equate what we're doing today as taking care of your buddy.

"The bottom line is — contributions drive the train of AER," he added.

For more information on contributing to AER, contact your local unit AER key person or visit www.aerhq.org. For information on the program call mil 485-8188 in Baumholder or 335-5254 in Wiesbaden.

Check older medications

In wake of recent FDA recall

The Food and Drug Administration announced its intent to remove a number of older cough, cold and allergy prescription medicines from its U.S. market. A list of the affected medicines is available at the FDA website, www.fda.gov/drugs.

Because the affected medications were developed decades ago before studies were required to prove they were safe and effective, they were never approved by the FDA. Col. Octavio Mont, Europe Regional Medical Command pharmacy consultant, said military pharmacies around Europe have not routinely provided the listed medications to patients for a long time. Since some of the medications are popular with U.S. health care providers, Army families in Europe can check to see if they have any of them in their homes.

"People who have received prescriptions from host nation providers can also check the FDA list," Mont said. "We encourage everyone to look through any prescription medications they may have in their homes and check to see if they are on the FDA list." (ERMC Public Affairs)

News and features

From the blotter

Compiled by the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Directorate of Emergency Services

Feb. 10

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with spouse abuse after spitting and pouring beer on a family member.

Wiesbaden: A Department of Defense employee is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle

Feb. 11

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

Wiesbaden: A Soldier is being charged with aggravated sexual assault after touching someone inappropriately.

Feb. 12

Baumholder: Two Soldiers are being charged with assault after being involved in an altercation with another soldier, which turned physical.

Feb. 13

Baumholder: A family member is being charged with simple assault after being involved in an altercation which turned physical.

Feb. 14

Baumholder: A noncommissioned officer is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

Wiesbaden: An officer is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle

Feb. 15

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

Wiesbaden: An NCO is being charged with simple assault after being involved in an altercation which turned physical.

Feb. 16

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with being absent without leaving.

Wiesbaden: An NCO is being charged with owning an unregistered vehicle.

Feb. 17

Baumholder: An officer is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

Wiesbaden: An officer is being charged with drunken driving after failing a breathalyzer exam.

Feb 19

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with larceny of government property after stealing medications from the the Baumholder pharmacy.

Feb. 19

Baumholder: Three Soldiers and an NCO are being charged with simple assault after being involved in an altercation which turned physical.

Feb. 20

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with drunken driving after driving in an erratic matter and failing a series of sobriety tests.

Wiesbaden: A DoD employee is being charged with sexual assault after inappropriately touching someone.

Feb. 2

Baumholder: An NCO is being charged with a traffic accident after striking another vehicle.

Feb. 22

Baumholder: A Soldier is being charged with larceny of AAFES property after concealing an item and leaving the store without proper payment.



Photo by Jennifer Clampet

Time out for green eggs and ham

Kindergartners at Wiesbaden's Hainerberg Elementary School snack on green eggs and ham after Dr. Seuss story time March 2 in celebration of Read Across America Day.

Continued from page 1

ficers work with families during a very difficult time, a heartrending time, when families are notified of their Soldier's death and have to make funeral arrangements and decisions about entitlements and benefits.

But grief is very personal — it cannot be standardized or resolved in a set time period. With the help of a panel of survivors selected by Casey, SOS was developed to provide longer-term, expanded support and care, taking up where casualty assistance ends.

SOS offers support through benefits coordinators, who help Survivors understand and apply for local, state and federal benefits; financial counselors, who assist through investment and estate planning education; and support coordinators, who facilitate support groups, provide life skills education and connect Survivors with counseling resources.

More than 200 SOS personnel are now working on installations throughout the United States and overseas, to include National Guard and Reserve locations. The three components work and train together very closely on this One Army program, to provide SOS services closest to where survivors live.

It does not matter how a Soldier died, and there is no time limit on SOS services. SOS coordinators extend a hand as survivors are working with casualty assistance officers in the first few months after a Soldier's death, but survivors do not have to accept assistance right then or ever. They can decide to return months or years later. The important thing is for survivors to know the support is there. They are not alone — they are part of the Army Family.

There are also no exclusions in the definition of a survivor. For the SOS program, a survivor is anyone — immediate family, extended family, a friend, a fellow warrior — who feels the loss of a Soldier. Every survivor is not entitled to the same benefits under law or regulations, but SOS coordinators will

work with any survivor to access counseling and other resources. Partnerships with local and national support organizations make this more expanded, inclusive approach possible.

SOS staffhave made tremendous progress in a short time, receiving more than 24,000 cases from Casualty and Mortuary Affairs and continually reaching out to survivors, both those who have suffered a loss recently and those whose loss pre-dates the program. As the program becomes established, they continue to refine and enhance services as more survivors provide feedback on their challenges and needs. For example, this past year, when it became clear that survivors who do not have ID cards were having difficulty getting onto post to use services, SOS developed a survivor vehicle decal program to ease access and provide special recognition. The decals are currently being distributed through SOS offices.

More information on SOS services and survivor resources is available on Army OneSource (www. myarmyonesource.com/FamilyProgramsandServices/SurvivingFamilies/SurvivorOutreachServices. aspx), the SOS Facebook page and garrison SOS webpages. There are also links to partner organizations whose support is so critical to connecting with and providing for survivors.

The loss of a Soldier is not a topic people want to talk about, but it is a reality of military life. We do what we can to prevent losses. We train for and plan our combat operations. We stress safety in garrison. We have enhanced programs to prevent risky behaviors and suicide.

In the end, though, despite our best efforts, we cannot prevent every loss. That is why Survivor Outreach Services is so crucial. To honor the fallen Soldier's service and sacrifice for our nation, we can do one last thing — offer support for the loved ones the Soldier left behind.

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News and features

News flash

AFN mobile app

Listeners can get current news, weather forecasts, road conditions, exchange rates and lots more on their mobile devices, courtesy of the American Forces Network-Europe's mobile application — and it's free. To get the app for an Apple device visit the App Store on your device and do a search for AFN Europe. For Android devices go to the Android Market and search for AFN Europe. (Courtesy of AFN-Europe)

AWAG Conference

This year's AWAG Conference will be held May 15-19 at the Edelwiess Lodge and Resort in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The event, one of the largest professional development seminars for military community volunteers, will feature a host of workshops and exhibitions. Visit www. awagonline.org for more information.

Haus Rissen

Germany's Haus Rissen in Hamburg offers five-day seminars aimed at educating U.S. officers, noncommissioned officers, civilians and local national employees about German economics, politics, history and social issues. Seminar dates are May 9-13 and June 6-10 for NCOs, May 16-20 and June 27 to July 1 for officers. U.S. and local national civilian employees can also register for any of the seminars. Contact Elke Herberger at ocpa. pi@eur.army.mil for more information. (USAREUR Public Affairs)

'Boots in the Sand'

Check out or contribute military stories from Iraq at www.facebook.com/Boots. in.the.sand. Show your support and become a follower by clicking the "Like" button and watching for daily posts and comments. (U.S. Forces-Iraq Press Desk)

Customs cracks down on banned eggs

By Robert Szostek U.S. European Command Customs Public Affairs Office

If you were thinking of sending Easter eggs stateside this Easter, beware. Regular chicken eggs and Kinder surprise chocolate eggs are banned from import to the States.

"U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents will remove Kinder surprise chocolate eggs from your baggage or any package mailed stateside," said Bill Johnson of the U.S. European Command Customs Executive Agency.

Kinder chocolate eggs are a popular treat and collector's item. They are hollow milk chocolate eggs about the size of a large hen's egg in a colorful foil wrapper. An oval-shaped plastic capsule within the egg contains a toy that may require assembly.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission tested many of the toys in the past and determined they present a choking hazard for young children.

Last year, CBP officers discovered more than 25,000 of these banned chocolate eggs. More than 2,000 separate seizures were made of this product, most arriving as small personal shipments at mail and express courier facilities.

Eggs from hens or other types of poultry are generally not allowed to be shipped or mailed to the United States due to poultry diseases such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza or Exotic Newcastle Disease that occur in many countries around the world.

Non-commercial amounts (10 or less) of empty egg shells that are clean and dried for decoration from HPAI-free countries may be shipped to the United States, but proof of the country of origin is required. This means that only commercially decorated eggs in their original packaging with country of origin labels will be accepted.

Home-made eggs that have been blown clean and only consist of the shell will not be accepted

Contact your local U.S. Military Customs Office for more information. Or visit the CPSC's website at www.cpsc.gov/CP-SCPUB/PREREL/prhtml06/06140.html.

Army Lodge

Continued from page 1

completion of a project that went through its share of challenges, including unanticipated water damages near the project completion, Internet connection problems and contractual issues.

"We have many projects ongoing — some more difficult than others," said Roger Gerber, USAG Wiesbaden's Transformation Stationing Management Office director, during a tour of the facility during the grand opening.

"Endlich fertig (finally finished)," was how Col. Jeffrey Dill, USAG Wiesbaden commander, described the occasion, thanking all of the participants including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Europe District; city planners; construction crews and Hessen Ministry officials for their "hard work" throughout the project — including the planning leading up to and after the ground breaking in October 2007.

Pointing out that the new facility begins another chapter for Soldiers and their families commensurate with their service, Dill said, ongoing transformation efforts are aimed at "keeping Wiesbaden the community of choice."

"Over the course of the coming years and decades many people will pass through this facility," said Professor Dr. Luise Hoelscher, undersecretary for the Hessen Ministry of Finance. Calling the lodge and its location "the gateway to the city" of Wiesbaden, Hoelscher added, "I hope that they will feel comfortable."



Photo by Karl Weisel

The new Army Lodge is located in Hainerberg Housing.

Wiesbaden Lord Mayor Dr. Helmut Müller was also on hand to help cut the ribbon and express his enthusiasm for ongoing German-American cooperation. Müller, who consistently noted the project's progress while passing by Hainerberg Housing, said he was pleased to see the results firsthand, remarking that American guests should feel welcome at the new lodge as it is close to the city center, but also not far from opportunities for hiking and biking in the nearby countryside.

During a tour for the media before the ribbon-cutting event, Manager James Weber pointed out features of the new \$36 million facility including a fitness room, guest laundry on each floor, free Internet use in each room and a free continental breakfast for guests in the lobby area. The lodge includes 64 standard rooms, 92 family rooms and eight extended stay units. It also caters to those with pets, featuring several rooms tailored to their needs.

"The hotel is built to Army lodging standard," said Weber. "If you go to a new hotel in Ansbach or Stuttgart, the rooms

are exactly the same. "The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Europe District, designed the lodge to adhere to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards," said Brian Temple, public affairs officer for the Europe District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. LEED, an internationally recognized green building certification system, ensures that energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction and other environmental factors were incorporated into the construction.

"For example, the lights and outlets in the rooms are powered on when the room key card is placed into a holster," he said. "This allows the standard fixtures to turn on. When an occupant leaves the room with his or her key card, the fixtures lose their electrical supply."

Other energy saving features include that all lighting features are equipped with energy saving light bulbs and rain water is collected in a cistern and used for irrigation, thus saving rain water.

"One of the good things about our hotel here is that we're close to everything," added Weber, pointing out that with its location next to the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center and not far from the Hainerberg Shopping Center, patrons can easily walk to U.S. military eateries and shops. A shuttle service is also available connecting the Army Lodge to Wiesbaden Army Airfield and other installations.

Newcomers and travelers can find more information about the new Wiesbaden Army Lodge by visiting the garrison's home page at www.wiesbaden. army.mil/sites/about/lodging.

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Duty in Afghanistan

Thunderbolts assume mission in Uruzgan

By Sgt. 1st Class John Wollaston Combined Team Uruzgan Public Affairs Office

During a transfer of authority ceremony at Multinational Base Tarin Kowt, the 1st Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, transferred authority for its role in Uruzgan Province to the 4th Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment, part of the Baumholderbased 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

The ceremony marks the official start to the Thunderbolt Battalion's Uruzgan mission, as the War Eagles prepare to move south to Dand District in Kandahar Province

In front of Soldiers representing seven different countries and local military and police officials, Lt. Col. David Oeschger and Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Vogl uncased the unit's colors; completing the transfer of authority for the mentoring of the Afghan National



Photo by Cpl. Chris Dickson
Lt. Col. David Oeschger delivers remarks.

Police in Uruzgan.

"This ceremony represents so much more than just two American units changing position," said Oeschger. "This ceremony represents governance, nations, and armies all gathered on the field of another nation to do good."

He told the governor, chief of police and commander of the Afghan National Army unit based in Uruzgan that the hopes of the nation are fully intertwined with the mission he and his Solders have in the province. Oeschger addressed not only his Soldiers but his new teammates from down under, Mentoring Task Force Two, from the Australian Army's 5th Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment.

"To the Thunderbolts, your professionalism, your dignity and respect for cultures will stand the test of time and you will succeed," he said. "To MTF-2, we are brothers in arms and we will succeed together."

Promising to build on what the Stryker unit labored to achieve over the last nine months, Oeschger promised outgoing commander Lt. Col. Douglas Sims that, "Your efforts, your blood and your lives are not in vain."

The Thunderbolts will work side-by-side with the Afghan National Police at several locations throughout the province. Their job is to train and mentor the police to ensure they can operate on their own.



Photo by Karl Weisel

Sunset on the Rhein River

A tugboat pulling a pair of barges makes its way up the river past Wiesbaden-Biebrich as the sun sets over the Rhein River. With spring fast approaching and longer hours of daylight, local bike paths along the river invite cyclists out for Comprehensive Community Fitness.

New equipment, mission

Medical Soldiers test their abilities

By Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Fincham 30th Medical Command Public Affairs Office

Medical Soldiers of U.S. Army Europe's only area support medical company tested their abilities during a field training exercise at the Mainz-Layenhof Training Area.

The 557th Medical Company (Area Support) conducted the unit's first full-scale training since reorganizing from a ground ambulance company in October. The exercise enabled leaders and Soldiers at all levels to get a feel for the organization's new equipment, personnel and mission, according to Capt. Adam Davies, commander of the 557th ASMC. "Seeing everything out here in the field is much different than just talking about it and seeing



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Fincham

Soldiers of the 557th Medical Company arrive on the scene to provide first aid during an exercise at the Mainz-Layenhof Training Area.

things on paper. This is a really good start point and is really developing our troop leading procedures," said Davies.

The 557th ASMC has the capability to provide Level II medical support, while simultaneously sending teams out to provide Level I care. "We're unique as a company in that we run full-spectrum operations. We run a Level II facility here at the FOB,

while also supporting outlying units at command posts with our treatment and evacuation teams," Davies said.

This training not only served as an opportunity to develop junior leaders, it also served as an opportunity to build and refine unit tactics, techniques and procedures as they prepare for an upcoming mission at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center

in Hohenfels. "We're going to be in Hohenfels in March providing medical support to the 172nd Separate Infantry Brigade during their mission rehearsal exercise." Davies explained. "This exercise really helped us identify things and develop our own TTPs moving forward. We've really been running through developing what right should look like on everything from equipment set up, to living spaces and patient care."

As the only unit of its kind in Europe, the nearly 6-month-old 557th ASMC must work to be ready for a variety of missions and a variety of locations, said Davies.

"We have to be ready and prepared for any contingency mission that may come up, and we're trying to be ready as quickly as possible," he said.



Photo by Peter Witmer

Big Bucks for College

Chris Criley, Wiesbaden High School senior class adviser and one of the founders of the Big Bucks for College Program, wins an auction for a Tiffany-style lamp during the Night at Carnevale event March 4. The event raised almost \$8,000 for graduating seniors. Big Bucks Bingo will be held March 25 at 6 p.m. (See page 20)

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1-84 Soldiers arrive, train in Afghanistan

By Sgt. Christopher **Klutts**

170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office

Less than nine hours after stepping foot on Afghan soil, Soldiers with Battery A, 1st Battalion, 84th Field Artillery Regiment, 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, began their final training here Feb. 26 before departing to Faryab province, which will be their area of operation and home for the next 12 months.

The training was part of the reception, staging, onward movement and integration, or RSOI, phase of the 170th IBCT's deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Instructors briefed the Soldiers on how to escape from a rolled over Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle, how to counter improvised explosive devices, how senior leaders can use money as a weapon against enemy forces and counterinsurgency fundamentals.

During Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle, or MRAP, training, an instructor taught Soldiers what can cause an MRAP to roll over and ways to mitigate injury. After the classroom portion of the training, Soldiers participated in a practical exercise where they were flipped upside down in a mock MRAP and had to safely egress.

"It was just like Hohenfels where they put us in the worst position possible so we can see how we would react," said Pfc. Michael A. Keefer, a Bowling Green, Ky., native, now a

field artillery automated data systems specialist with Battery A. Keefer joined the unit in October 2010 during the brigade's mission rehearsal exercise in Hohenfels, and the egress training here was the first he had done in an MRAP vehicle.

The improvised explosive device, or IED, awareness training was tailored to Regional Command North, where Battery A Soldiers and the remainder of the Bayonet Brigade will be conducting missions.

The IED awareness instructors update the training every 90 days based on intelligence reports from the battlefield, ensuring what they teach in class is as close as possible to what Soldiers will see while on patrol, said Sgt. 1st Class James Hutchinson, a Lawton, Okla., native, now an IED awareness trainer here.

"IEDs are the number one threat in this part of the country. Until that changes, I think this refresher training is paramount," said Hutchinson, who also trained Bayonet Soldiers during the mission rehearsal exercise at Hohenfels.

Although some Battery A artillerymen have been training with the brigade for more than 18 months, all the Soldiers, whether multiple combat tour veterans or Soldiers new to the Army, benefited from the RSOI training, said Sgt. 1st Class Eldred M. Stewart, a New Orleans native, now a platoon sergeant with Battery A.

"Being stationed in Germany, you go to the field and train for 45 to 60 days at a time.



A Soldier with 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery Regiment, 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, jumps from the gunner's hatch of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle during MRAP egress training at Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, Feb. 26. The training was part of the reception, staging, onward movement and integration phase of the 170th IBCT's deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

And then you don't go back out for a few months, so a lot of these guys forget this stuff," said Staff Sgt. Jeremy L. Lacey, a Sarasota, Fla., native, now a

section chief with Battery A. Lacey went on to say he hopes the refresher training helps him with his highest priority — his Soldiers' making it home safely.

"I am bringing seven Soldiers down here and I need to make sure I bring those seven back. That is my sole purpose in life now," said Lacey.

Child care provider training can convert to college credit

Have you ever thought about starting your own home-based business?

Imagine if someone offered you all the training you need and it applied to college credit too.

If you love children and want to work from home, you may want to look into what it takes to become certified as a Family Child Care provider. Beginning FCC providers who start with no more than two children can earn from \$20,000 to \$40,000 a year.

Hildegard Bragg, FCC director, is looking for new FCC providers to create child care environments in their own home. It is an excellent opportunity for spouses with their own children who want to work, but are restricted to staying at home because of their own child care needs.

Spending the formative years with your children is one reason why spouses choose to stay at home and don't work. The FCC program allows parents of ages 6 weeks to 12 years flexible care options based on their families' needs.

Providers offer full-time, part-time, hourly, overnight and special needs care.

We all know that child care costs can add up for a family and restrict parents from doing many of their favorite recreational activities. Becoming an FCC provider is a way for your children to meet new playmates while you conduct a business.

FCC providers are not exclusively on post. If you live in one of the surrounding communities, you are also welcome to become a provider. You are provided with child-size tables, chairs, mats and more.

It is important to find career opportunities that can transfer across the globe. Your training allows you to continue to work when you PCS. Not only are you jump-starting your career, you are learning skills and education that can lead to your own business.

After the extensive training program that certifies you in CPR and first aid, FCC providers have the opportunity to take free educational programming offered by the Army. Opportunities can lead to a child development associate or home accreditation. The Army is willing to pay to further benefit your life.

To apply call Bragg at mil 485-6588 civ (06783) 6-6588 or come by the dispensary CDC. Orientation is ongoing. Start your new career today.

Operation Excellence launches in Baumholder

By Alice Verberne Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Marketina

Customers in Baumholder may soon see a difference in service in Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities. An initiative was recently implemented to provide customer service training to make FMWR facilities the patron's first choice.

"We should have all of our employees currently on staff trained by the end of the year, and as new employees come on board they will receive the training as well," said Greg Galloway, FMWR director in Baumholder.

The program aims to change employee interactions by applying personal reflection to show how each individual can impact front door activities. The bottom line is to increase the positive experience the customer has while being served at FMWR facilities in Baumholder. Students discuss their best customer service experiences and then review award-winning practices to learn customer service techniques.

Additionally, to better serve the customer, FMWR staff members now have

access to a specialized "smart book" that looks similar to an oversized rolodex featuring on-base happenings, phone numbers, manager names, maps, radio frequencies and information on facility

Most of the information in the smart book is compiled from "the ROCK!" electronic magazine. Members of the community may access this online desk reference available on the Baumholder community website www.baumholder. army.mil. "Smart Book" is issued quarterly and may be accessed through the official Baumholder FMWR Facebook site.

FMWR employees also signed an employee and customer covenant at the beginning of the year to show solidarity to the mission to serve Soldiers, their families, civilians, retirees and their coworkers. The concept underscores the new FMWR slogan and also encourages employees to impact the lives of Soldiers and families in a positive way, especially during times of deployments.

To ensure the new training is working, Installation Management Command Europe FMWR has a mystery shopper program in place to spot check employee/ customer interaction to serve as a report or civ (06783) 6-6692. card on what facilities are doing well and what they need to improve. Positions for mystery shoppers are open to members of the community.

It is a great opportunity for folks to add quick experience to their resumes and have some fun giving customer feedback while making a little extra cash, officials said. All you have to do is email garrisonservices@bareinternational. com for assistance with registration and getting started with the mystery shopping contractor, Bare International. For local assistance in Baumholder contact employment readiness coordinator or call the Army Community Service volunteer coordinator Ciara Luna at mil 485-6692

The Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, Marketing Research and Analysis Division asks people to spend a few minutes to take a survey on the Army Family Covenant.

The survey will help programmers evaluate what was done well and what needs to be done better to improve the delivery of the Army Family Covenant. The website to sign on to take the survey is www.armymwr.com/fmwrc/2011afc/ survey.htm.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about this survey you may email the FMWR research staff at mwrsurvey@fmwrc.army.mil.

Smith CDC offers Friday parent night out 2011

Take a Friday night off without the kids from 6:30-10:30 p.m. March 25, April 8 or May 20 at Smith Child Development Center, Building 8099. The program is for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old. Cost is \$16 for nondeployed Soldiers. Respite cards may be used for free care. Reserve and pay two weeks in advance at Child, Youth and School Services Parent Central Services, Building 8743 or on Webtrac online. Priority is offered to spouses of deployed active duty members. Children need to be registered with CYSS in order to participate. For more information call CYSS at civ (06783) 6-7003.



Black History Program highlights heritage

By Stephanie J. Santos Contributing Writer

Sounds of beating drums, children's voices and sights of students and teachers wearing traditional African attire greeted guests at the Smith Elementary School Black History Program Feb. 25.

The afternoon tribute showcased African poems and music as well as contributions from famous poets, inventors and civil rights leaders including Langston Hughes, George Washington Carver and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This year's program was dedicated to Robert Woods and Carolyn Phillips, two senior members of Smith Elementary School.

Each participating class had a chance to define the month's significance through their own expressions. Kindergartners sang "Kumbayah" and "Peanut, Peanut-Butter and Jelly;" first-through fourth-graders sang original African songs and second-graders explained the importance of symbols used on handmade quilts during the Underground Railroad era.

Louise Gregory, first-grade teacher, said the day was just as meaningful to her as it was for the students.

"I think it's so important for children



Photo by Stephanie J. Santos

First-graders at Smith Elementary wear traditional African attire as they sing original songs at the Black History Month celebration Feb. 25.

to learn about other cultures," said Gregory. "The purpose of this program is to celebrate the heritage of all Soldiers, students, parents and teachers of African heritage in our community. It was a wonderful feeling to have this event pull together and give the students a feeling of teamwork."

Gregory said participants practiced for almost three weeks, with the assistance of music teacher Alice Fozard and several teachers, to learn the songs' lyrics as well as hand gestures and dance routines.

Students' hard work and dedication was apparent as the standing –room only

crowd listened intently to fourth-grader Jason Webb's drum solo to the tunes of an African song, and fourth-graders Billie Jo Long and Lina Scott-Ramos' rendition of "We Shall Overcome."

A silence filled the room as the girls raised their hands and sang each word of the song to the crowd.

Parent volunteer Ann Zetterstrom said the event was enjoyable for everyone.

"It was so nice to see how excited the children were and see the whole school come together and enjoy their enthusiasm," said Zetterstrom. "This community is great about supporting programs the school has."

ParentAnita Hensley agreed. "Learning the songs was a great experience for the children. It was also good for their self-confidence," she said.

"Ms. Gregory's enthusiasm is so encouraging for them. She helps bring out the spirit of Smith Elementary."

The afternoon celebration concluded with first-graders stepping down from the stage and inviting the crowd to join in the fun. "I liked the music," said Diego Torres, 7, as he spun around to the African song titled "Waka Waka."

"I want to do this again next year."

FMWR roundup ... FMWR roundup

BOSS Adopt A Road program

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers members meet once a month on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon at the Power Zone to help keep AAFES Road, Pear Street and the grassy area in between the two roads clean. The program, Adopt A Road, is a way for BOSS members to get involved in their community and make a difference in keeping the environment clean. Earn promotion points and help the Baumholder community by getting involved. Call mil 485-8251 or civ (06783) 6-8251 to find out more.

BOSS holds Right Arm Night

All single Soldiers are invited to participate in Right Arm Night at the Rheinlander Community Club March 25 from 6-8 p.m. Soldiers should bring their first line supervisors for some socializing with free finger food and drinks for sale at the bar. For more information call mil 485-8251 or civ (06783) 6-8251.

Creative Arts Center

The Baumholder Cretive Arts Center offers the following programs this spring:

- Basic beading
- Crochet for beginners, pros
- Decoupage dazzle
- Intro to framing
- Knitting for beginners, advanced
- Macrame Jewelry necklace

For more information call the center at mil 485-6687, civ (06783) 6-6687 or email *artscenter@eur. army.mil*.

2011 Spring Arts Festival

Finish up your latest art projects and submit them to the 2011 Spring Arts Festival. Submissions will be accepted through April with categories for children and adults. Choose from a variety of categories: painting, cake decorating, drawing, fabrics, sculptures, jewelry, 3D art, mixed media and woodworking. Stop by the Arts Center to pick up an entry form or email artscenter@eur.army.mil to request an electronic form.

Second Saturday family fun

Try the Baumholder Library's new Wii video games, use the video messenger system to record a family read-a-long or create a seasonal craft using library resources such as starting a scrapbook. All activities are free. For more information call mil 485-1740.

Toddler story time

The Baumholder Library offers toddler story time every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. March 17, 24 and 31. The pre-literacy program for ages 2-3 incorporates finger and word play, songs and games into stories. Call mil 485-1740 for more information.

Adult, family programs

Every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. the Baumholder Library offers adult and family programs and homework resources. The program is offered March 22 and 29. Customers can conduct research, search databases or ask a librarian for assistance. The program is offered for approximately one hour. Call the Baumholder

Library at mil 485-1740 for details.

Book a librarian

Receive assistance with college research, academic help or web surfing every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Call mil 485-1740 to schedule an appointment.

Children's story time

The Baumholder Library offers free children's story time every Tuesday in March at 3:30 p.m. The beginning reader program for ages 4-6 offers language and phonics, crafts and educational exercises. Call mil 485-1740 for more details.

Book clubs

The Baumholder Library offers free adult and young adult book clubs. Books are selected from Army Europe Libraries book kits. Meet new people. Contact the Baumholder Library at mil 485-1740 to join.

Archery program

Sign up now and start making your bow for this spring's archery program. Call Outdoor Recreation at mil 485-7182/6202/6345.

New hours for bowling

Starting March 21the new hours at Strikers are:

● Sundays and holidays, 1-9 p.m. ● Mondays through Thursdays,11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. ● Fridays and Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Free fitness orientations

Learn about local fitness opportunities with a free orientation. Call mil 485-7176 or civ (06783) 6-7176.

Town hall focuses on changes, future projects

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder Public Affairs Office

There was standing room only at the Feb. 23 Baumholder town hall. The forum focused on updating the community about ongoing and future projects as well as changes that will come about in light of the current deployment.

Patricia McCray, town hall coordinator, said she was pleased with the turnout.

"This was the largest turnout we've seen in recent memory," said McCray,"

After greeting the audience, Lt. Col. Sam McAdoo, U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder commander, turned the floor over to Brian Smith, Baumholder Army and Air Force Exchange Service manager, who addressed a topic that piqued the interest of many community members

AAFES will be changing its hours of operation and closing some facilities for renovation during the

Smith announced that the Shoppette will go from a 24-hour operation to 18 hours a day. Taco Bell will close for remodeling and renovations, which will expand it into the area where Baskin-Robbins was. This expansion will cut back on the lines during the lunch and dinner hours, according to Smith. There is no time line for closure or when it will re-open.

Subway will remain open, and no time changes will be made

Smith then addressed an issue from a previous town hall meeting which suggested opening a shoppette in upper Wetzel. "We have worked at it and from an AAFES standpoint a shoppette in upper Wetzel would have to at least make \$1,000 per day to break even and, according to stats and population, AAFES doesn't think it's possible," said Smith.

McAdoo said, "I've asked them (AAFES) to look at placing an AAFES trailer in Wetzel. They can operate out of that and see what kind of money they actually make. We need to try and prove them wrong."

Chris Macri, director of human resources, announced that the postal service center was going to start notifying customers via email when they have packages to pick up. His announcement met with much approval from the audience.

Since then, preregistration cards have been placed in customers' mail boxes. Mail recipients have the option of providing two email addresses for notifications. AKO is suggested for one of the addresses.

The garrison recently conducted a survey which revealed that 80 percent of the community wanted German-style washers and dryers in their housing quarters. McAdoo said the results of the survey were given to Diane Devins, Installation Management Command-Europe director, who responded by saying that IMCOM would give Baumholder \$1.4 million to buy the new washers and dryers.

"You will be getting them in your houses soon if you don't have them already," said McAdoo. "The plus side is that we'll still keep the large washers and dryers downstairs in the basements."

McAdoo then announced that Baumholder is going forward with new town houses in Wetzel starting about June 1. Eleven buildings are being demolished and in their place Baumholder will build town houses similar to the ones in the Kaiserslautern military community.

"These homes are for E-1s to E-6s only, not E-7s and above and not officers," said McAdoo. The project is expected to be completed by 2013.

Past issues addressed at the town hall included the move of the U-Fix-it Store to the DPW compound. The Hill Top Theater will set up shop in its place.

Arts and Crafts will move to the old museum building this spring.

There are new ATMs at the Lagerhoff and in Wetzel across the street from the teen center.

New, lighter, easier-to-handle plastic dumpsters are being placed in the community.

The Community Bank will be doing some renovations this spring and will operate from a trailer. The bank will shut down for three days to move into the temporary trailers. The ATM at the bank will not be available for those three days.

The next town hall is scheduled for May 25 at 4 p.m. at the Rheinlander Community Club. McCray said she expects an equally robust turnout of community members.

"The garrison commander has approved more food and many more door prizes for our next town hall," said McCray. "We gave away four prizes this time, I think we can double that number next time and make a lot of folks happy."

"I believe the free child care and door prizes helped make this town hall a success. Folks were able to make reservations with CYSS, drop their children off 30 minutes prior to the town hall and pick them up by 6 p.m. We expect to offer the same service to parents during our next town hall, in addition to increased prizes and food," said McCray.

A complete listing of topics addressed at the town hall are available on the USAG Baumholder website at www.baumholder.army.mil.

News briefs ... News briefs ... News briefs

Shopping trip

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers has scheduled a shopping day trip March 19 to Germany's largest and newest shopping mall in Mannheim featuring more than 100 shops with cafes and restaurants.

Departure is at 9 a.m. from the Wagon Wheel Theater. Return is at 6 p.m.

This is a bus trip, and the cost is \$22 per person. Bring shopping money and VAT forms.

The trip is open to single Soldiers and geographical bachelors of all ranks and military branches.

Blood drive

A blood drive will be held April 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



at the Hall of Champions. Walkins are welcome but appointments are encouraged. For an appointment call the American Red Cross at mil 485-1760 civ (06783) 6-1760

People who have been deployed in the last year to Iraq, eastern Turkey, Afghanistan or western provinces of Saudi Arabia will not be able to donate blood.

Contact the American Red Cross for any questions about eligibility or to make an appointment.

This blood drive is conducted by the Armed Services Blood Program and sponsored by the Baumholder American Red Cross.

Kick the tobacco habit

Want to quit smoking or dipping? Wish you were free of tobacco? A tobacco cessation orientation class will be held March 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Baumholder

Health Clinic. For more information or to participate in the class call mil 485-7312 or come by Army Public Health Nursing in Building 8742, Room 101. Feel free to bring your lunch to the orientation.

This is an eight-week program using self-study online assignments and group classes. The classes consist of education and support as you transition to a new tobacco-free lifestyle.

Saturday child care

Saturday Child Care is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Smith Child Development Center for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old on March 19, April 16 and May 14. Cost is \$32 for nondeployed Soldiers. Patrons may use their respite card for free care or pay \$16. Reserve and pay two weeks in advance at Child, Youth and School Services Parent Central Services or on Webtrac online. Children must be registered with CYSS

Uniform wear off installations restricted

Military uniforms, to include physical training uniforms, should not to be worn or openly displayed off U.S. installations and outside of other controlled environments.

Wearing of the military uniform in Baumholder is limited to home and work for military members traveling between Smith and Wetzel Kasernes, the clinic and the central issue facility at the railhead. Brief essential stops at gas stations and off-post child care centers are permitted.

Additionally, off-post physical fitness activities such as road marches or organized PT are also prohibited.

in order to participate. For more information, call CYSS at civ (06783) 6-7003.

Child care openings

Spaces are available for full- and part-time care in the Child Development Centers, School-Age Center and Family Child Care. Children must be registered at Child, Youth and School Services. Register at Parent Central Services in Building 8743. Call mil 485-7003 or civ (06783) 6-7003 for

more information. Enrollment hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Here to serve

CYSS is here to serve your child care needs. Child care is available in all programs fulltime, part-day, school-age and Family Child Care.

Register at Parent Central Services located in Building 8743. Call mil 485-7003 or civ (06783) 6-7003 for more information. Enrollment hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

March 17, 2011 www.baumholder.army.mil

Simulator hones motorcycle know-how

Safety officials say novice to advanced riders can benefit from training aid

Story and photo by Karl Weisel

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

With longer days and warmer temperatures, some people's thoughts turn to the pleasure of cruising through the countryside on a motorcycle.

For those who haven't been on a bike for a while and those just considering joining their ranks, Wiesbaden's Safety Office offers the perfect refresher and introduction in the form of its motorcycle simulator, located on Wackernheim's McCully Barracks. The state-of-the-art simulator features built-in exercises; options for modifying weather, visibility, time of day and traffic; and various other training resources.

"It's for Soldiers, family members age 18 and over and civilians," said Helmut Schartel of the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Safety Office.

"Europe has a whole different riding culture than the United States," said Manar Sadek-Shaw, the garrison's safety manager, explaining that the simulator provides a safe learning environment where individuals can make mistakes without ending up injured or worse. "Even if you have 10 years riding experience, when you get here it's a whole different riding experience.

"Simulation has the unique ability to allow students to repeat tasks without the risk of negative consequences degrading the learning environment," Sadek-Shaw said, adding that through use of the simulator they are "exposed to a safe training



Helmut Schartel of the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Safety Office demonstrates the motorcycle simulator on Wackernheim's McCully Barracks.

environment that allows practicing of real-world speeds in a visual, auditory and kinesthetic learning space to develop critical motor skills and tasks.

"Our goal is not just to train the operators, but to educate them. We put them in dangerous situations in a controlled environment," she said. "The simulator puts them in the mindset to make instant decisions in emergency situations."

Simulator users have three different options, depending on their skills and experience.

Novice motorcyclists, or those still considering whether they even want to take the time to acquire the training and certification necessary to obtain a motorcycle license, should take the Basic Riding Skills course. "The training is four hours long and a maximum of four students can attend," said Sadek-Shaw.

A three-hour-long Motorcycle Emergency Situations course provides riders with mental and hands-on practice in obstacle avoidance, safe cornering,

traction management and environmental hazards. Up to six students can take the course at a time.

Experienced riders are invited to take the Advanced Riding Skills course which concentrates on developing "a higher level of defensive riding techniques," she said. "The training is eight hours long, and a maximum of two students can attend."

Before trying any of the various programs available, students are given the opportunity to acclimate themselves to the simulator which is modeled after a BMW R1150. The 10-minute orientation ride is conducted before every lesson. "The simulator reduces learner anxiety. Learning is easier and less stressful than on the range," she said.

"We're the only garrison in Europe that has this riding simulator," Sadek-Shaw said.

Even the most experienced motorcyclists can benefit from the simulator training, said the safety advisers. "We can say we have two large groups of motorcycle accidents," said Schartel, explaining that most can be split into either cases where the motorcyclist is at fault through driving while intoxicated, speeding or not being in the right frame of mind — or accidents involving other vehicles where in 75 percent of those situations the other driver is at fault — most often at intersections.

Through use of the simulator training, motorcyclists can practice "Searching, Evaluating and Executing" responses to unexpected and potentially dangerous situations.

"The training is conducted by Motorcycle Safety Foundation rider coaches," said Sadek-Shaw, pointing out that with an MSF-certified rider coach on hand students get personalized training. "You get one-on-one coaching and mentoring training" where students also have the ability to go back and examine how they reacted — whether positively or negatively—using playback of recorded lessons.

"We're also looking for motorcycle riders to serve as mentors for their fellow motorcycle riders," the safety manager said. Interested individuals should have three years of continuous riding experience, at least three months riding experience in Germany and have had no moving violations within the past six months.

For more information about the motorcycle simulator or serving as a mentor call the garrison Safety Office at mil 337-6133/7415 or civ (0611) 705-6133/7415. People can also email the safety office at *WiesbadenMMP@eur.army.mil* to get involved in the Motorcycle Mentor Program.

Those exceeding \$10,000 must file form

IRS warns overseas residents about large foreign accounts

Members of the Internal Revenue Service want U.S. citizens living and working overseas to know they must file a "Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts" form with the Treasury Department by June 30 if the aggregate value of their foreign accounts exceeded \$10,000 at anytime during the previous calendar year.

According to the IRS website, "a foreign country" includes all geographical areas outside the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the territories and possessions of the United States (including Guam, American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands).

Treasury Department officials ask people who qualify to fill out TD F 90-22.1 and help the IRS crackdown on people who fail to file the form. This is not a tax form and should not be included with

IRS tax returns. Failure to file this form can lead to criminal and monetary penalties.

The military community should be aware that accounts held at military facilities such as Community Bank or on-post credit unions are not considered "foreign bank accounts."

However, military members and their families might have a Postbank or Sparkasse account to pay a home mortgage or to pay local bills.

U.S. citizens should pay attention to the exchange rate; given that at its lowest point in 2010 the U.S. dollar was worth ϵ .6866, having as little as ϵ 6,866 in a German account or in multiple German accounts, may be enough to trigger the requirement to file a TD F 90-22.1.

U.S. citizens should also be aware that both U.S. citizens and resident aliens must file this form. Those who filed a joint return with a non-resident alien spouse

must also file the form if the spouse has foreign accounts exceeding the threshold. Since filing jointly you are electing to treat your spouse as if he or she was a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes even if he or she does not currently have a green card.

The form is available at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f90221.pdf. Once completed, the form should be mailed to the U.S. Department of Treasury, P.O. Box 32621, Detroit, MI 48232-0621.

For assistance with your tax issues, visit the Wiesbaden Tax Assistance Center at the Tony Bass Center, Building 1043, Room 207. The Tax Center policy is drop-off only. Appointments are only used to clarify any questions before returns are dropped off. The office is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call mil 337-4755 for more information. (Courtesy of the Wiesbaden Legal Assistance Office)

AFAP gives Wiesbaden a plan for action

Story and photo by Jennifer Clampet U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden's collective voice has been heard — from a plead for more high-school-age activities to a request that would allow more single Soldiers to live off post.

Now it's time for action or at least a plan for action.

Issues raised at the 2011 Wiesbaden Army Family Action Plan Conference — held Feb. 24 and 25 — will move on to a regional AFAP conference or be handled at the local level.

"Five or six of these issues that were briefed I've seen in the last 20 months since I've been here," said Col. Jeffrey Dill, USAG Wiesbaden commander. "This (AFAP process) gives me leverage in getting authorization from higher levels (to tackle the issues)."

More than 100 pieces of legislation have been changed, 154 policies revised or established and 173 programs and services improved since AFAP was instituted 28 years ago.

AFAP is an Army-wide grassroots initiative designed to give community members an opportunity to tell Army leadership what is working and what isn't and what might be done in order to fix it.

"We need age-appropriate entertainment for high schoolers," said Wies-

baden teen Marlene Reyes, who gave the out brief for the conference's teen group.

Reyes' brief included a request for more PG-13 movies and perhaps even the creation of a Child, Youth and School Services Edge program exclusively for high-school-age teens. Reyes' group even had a name for such activities — Over the Edge.

More single Soldiers should have the ability to move off post, said Saleisia Lampkin representing the single Soldiers working group. Tackling an Army regulation, Lampkin's group recommended that the Army's off-post living regulation AR 420-1 be changed to reflect the Air Force's regulation 32-6005, section 5.1.3, to allow E-4s and above with at least three years time in service to be authorized Soldiers, fami and civilians significant to live off post.

The latter issue requires attention at the Department of the Army-level AFAP. But the first, regarding more activities for high school teens, is already being tackled locally, said Annikka Trabucco, Wiesbaden AFAP program manager.

"Some issues can be considered short-term or easily fixed, but others will need more involvement," said Trabucco who called the 2011 AFAP conference extremely successful.



Annikka Trabucco, outreach and Army Family Action Plan coordinator, gives AFAP delegates a brief history of the program Feb. 24 during the 2011 Wiesbaden AFAP conference.

More than 40 delegates representing Soldiers, family members, teens, retirees and civilians spent two days in five working groups tackling issues submitted locally throughout the year for AFAP.

"It's to better the community and to better the quality of life for community members," said Alise Gates, a spouse and first time delegate with Wiesbaden AFAP. Gates admitted she didn't know what to expect from the organized conference, but said she was happy to help.

Master Sgt. James Farina, with 66th Military Intelligence Brigade, has

volunteered as an AFAP delegate for three years.

"This is an opportunity to voice (our) opinions, to be part of the decision-making process," said Farina who added that the best issue to come out of an AFAP was allowing family members to be able to use a Soldier's education benefits.

"By far that was the best thing that came out of an AFAP," said Farina.

Past AFAP issues have instituted local changes such as a new teen center for community youth, an event team for planning activities

at the Wiesbaden Community Activity Center and the availability of additional newcomers tours through the Army Community Service Relocation Program.

Changes instituted Army-wide because of AFAP issues include the 90-day stabilization upon redeployments, Military Savings Plan authorized and implemented and Family Readiness Groups institutionalized.

Visit www.wiesbaden.army.mil to view all 13 issues submitted from the USAG Wiesbaden AFAP Conference.

Teens express thoughts on improvement



Wiesbaden High School ninthgrader Violetta Aslamova (right) and 10h-grader Gianne Soriano ways to improve the community.

Story and photo by Jameelah Arcila

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Army Family Action Plan organizers wanted to hear from Wiesbaden teens leading up to the AFAP conference Feb. 24-25. Students were invited to attend the Food for Thought lunchtime event at the Wiesbaden Teen Center Feb. 17. Pizza and drinks were provided and the only price for students was to list three ideas they felt would improve the community.

"Teens come up with amazing things," said Annikka Trabucco, Wiesbaden's AFAP program manager. "Last year they suggested an indoor multipurpose facility for winter sports."

That idea has been elevated for further consideration.

"It's really neat to see things we bring up here move up the command chain," said Trabucco.

Feedback from the Food for Thought luncheon varied and included a swimming pool and more planned social activities. Wiesbaden High School junior Paulee Brown was one of the first to arrive.

"We need a bigger teen center," he said. This was a popular request among other participating teenagers who wanted more opportunity for social events on post.

"The football field should have lights so we can have night time games," said senior Ashley Charles. "At all of my other schools, everyone went to the game on Friday night, and we don't have that here."

The final tally for this year's event was 88 students.

"Last year's teen event was on a smaller scale, and this year we wanted to be bigger and better," said Trabucco.





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Wiesbaden CYSS youth wins Boys and Digital maestro: Girls Clubs of America music tech award

Story and photo by Karl Weisel Ŭ.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

A love of the Beatles and some digital music mastery earned a Wiesbaden School-Age Center youth accolades and cash courtesy of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Grayson Walls, age 10, garnered \$500 in the Boys and Girls Clubs of America's Digital Arts Festival to be used by the Wiesbaden Child, Youth and School Services facility for an upcoming event or day trip. Walls, who was 9 at the time of the contest was a national music tech winner in the 6-9-year-old category.

"I tried to make it sound like a Beatles song," said Walls. "I'm really into the Beatles."

Walls explained that he was inspired by his father, John, a civilian contractor now serving in Afghanistan, who also is a Beatles fan and plays several instruments including guitar, piano and drums. on the project.

"It's the first thing I've ever won," said Walls, adding that he was "pretty excited" upon learning that he had won at the Europe level.

Asked what he planned to do with his share of the prize money, the Hainerberg Elementary School fourth-grader said, "I might spend it for my cat or get a cheap video game."

"I know of his love for the Beatles you could tell (the influence) the first time you heard it," said David Kent, a SAC lab tech administrator.

Walls worked with a computer audio program called Acid Pro to put together his composition.

"The Boys and Girls Clubs of America sent us a sound snippet," said Kent, explaining that the short sample included a beat with bass and guitar. Walls had to compose his instrumental piece using the sample.

Walls said he spent two days working



Grayson Walls works with a music program at the School-Age Center.

"He worked hard to take it further," said Kent, explaining that as a musician and audio engineer himself, "it was very rewarding" to mentor the project. "It's nice to be able to give the kids that support. We worked a little bit on the arrangement.

"He did a good job," he added. "It's really good for Grayson and I'm proud

Grayson's digital music composition now advances to the statesidelevel Boys and Girls Clubs of America competition.

Employees lauded for outstanding customer service

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Prince and Col. Jeffrey Dill. USAG Wiesbaden's commander, recognized four individuals March 4 for outstanding customer service during the month of February.

The four civilian employees were honored for their overall efforts to provide remarkable customer service. All received certificates of appreciation and a \$250 cash award.

The following were acknowledged by coworkers and customers who submitted comments to the Interactive Customer Evaluation System:

Concepcion Plenge, Wies-



and friendly attitude.

Plenge



Thomas



baden Health Clinic medical and Recreation Wiesbaden technologist, was recognized School-Age Center director, for "assuring a high standard was recognized for being proin quality for the patients of fessional, supportive and flexthe Wiesbaden Community." It ible and successfully managing was noted that she holds a high the responsibilities of multiple customer satisfaction rating as employment positions. "She is a result of her professionalism a pleasure to work with. ... Her priority is the customer." Krystal Cook, Directorate

Eddie Thomas, Directorate support possible."

of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security operations assistant, was recognized for his personal commitment and dedication to customers. "He is patient, listens carefully, and focuses on the details and facts ... to ensure customer receives the best on-time and on-target

Eva Montanez Zemp, Wiesbaden Health Clinic population health nurse, was recognized for her achievements as a nursing leader. She continuously seeks innovative ways to improve the health of Wiesbaden beneficiaries. "Her dedication to mission success is unparalleled."

Nominations are submitted monthly to the Directorate of Plans, Analysis and Integration Office and are evaluated by a committee that comprises representatives from garrison directorates and staff agencies who vote on submissions.

Call mil 337-7766 for more information.





New library scanner

Patrons can now perform self check-out

Story and photo by **Karl Weisel**

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

A new service at the Wiesbaden Library should speed patrons through the check-out process and free up staff members to perform other library

A new self check-out terminal provides library customers with the means to scan their own books — up to 10 at one time — and be on their way.

Books and DVDs

"If you just have books and single disk DVDs to check out, you can use the self check-out," said Ann Burski, public services librarian

"You can scan from five to 10 items at one time," explained library technician Marco Marques, adding that the scanning process is selfprovided upon check-out. To scan, the customer places the books on a magnetic pad. ... You can also renew items as well."

The self scanners are part of an overall Installation Management Command effort to enhance customer service. make better use of resources and maintain accountability of library materials. Burski said. "It's an inventory assistant and helps in ordering and interlibrary loans.

"The goal is to have all IMCOM libraries on the Radial Frequency Identification system by the end of the fiscal year," she said

Wiesbaden librarians were able to completely tag and inventory the some 30,000 items available with the new magnetic

explanatory, and a receipt is ing to curtail library services.

"We did not close and basically did it while continuing to serve customers," said Marques.

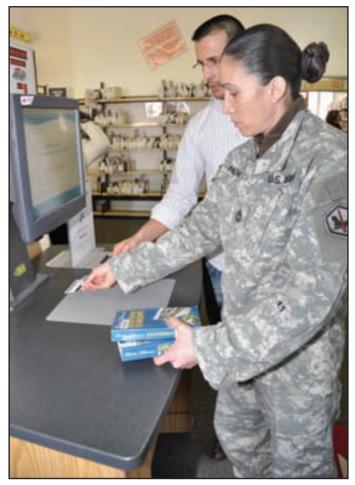
Increased security

"This increases the security of the library materials and makes the collection management easier to handle," he said. "It's also a much faster process."

And patrons will benefit from the additional time librarians will have for other library offerings and projects, Marques pointed out.

"The other advantage is you, as a patron, will have full power over your account," he said, explaining the customers can check their accounts for overdue materials and other information when self checking out.

For more information on the new self check-out scanner, stop by the Wiesbaden Library.



Wiesbaden library technician Marco Marques shows Sgt. 1st Class Martha C. Parker, Company C, 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion, how the new self-scanner works.



Job & Career Expo

Local , Europe, USA & Worldwide Employment

Mar. 25 10 a.m-2 p.m.

40+ Employers!

One of the largest DOD sponsored Job/ Career Fairs in Europe.

University Representatives

and all the latest info on Soldier & Spouse educational initiatives.

Prior Attendee

Review: "I was blown away,...beyond my expectations, .. feel very positive that there will be several offers."

> DOD ID card holders only



Federal Employment

representatives (AF&NAF) to assist with job information and application procedures.

COME PREPARED!

Employers are accepting resumes, interviewing with possible onsite hiring.

Prior Employer Review: "The best event in Europe, ... as professional as any stateside large scale Job Fair."



US Army Garrison Wiesbaden - Employment Readiness Progr POC: Diane McManus DSN 335-5234 Civilian 0611-4080-234



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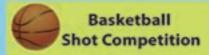
tness Class Demos

Yoga, Zumba, Pilates, Spin, & Body Tone





Weight lifting Competition



Wiesbaden Fitness Center (WAAF) Bldg. 1631 Civ: (0611)705-5541 ArmyGermany.com

March Maddness 1/2 Marathon





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Community notes ... Community notes

WCSC events

The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club holds Family Bingo April 2 at 1:30 p.m. in the Army Community Service cafeteria, "Spring is in the Air" bunco April 7 at 10 a.m. and a German flea market finds luncheon April 20 at 10 a.m. at the Community Activity Center. Organizations and individuals are also reminded that the deadline to make welfare requests is April 15. Visit http:// wiesbadenspousesclub.com for more information.

Befriend 66th MI Bde.

Soldiers, spouses, children, civilians and former unit members are invited to help promote programs and boost morale in the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade. For more information on Friends of the 66th MI Brigade send an email to president. friendsof66th@yahoo.com or visit www.friendsof66th.org.

Pet parade April 2

The Wiesbaden Veterinary Clinic holds a Prevention of Animal Cruelty five-kilometer pet parade April 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. starting at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. Bring your dog on the leash and compete for prizes in the best pet costume and owner/ pet look-alike contests. The Girl Scouts will be on hand accepting donations of food and supplies for local animal shelters and the

Vet Clinic staff will provide pet care information. Call mil 337-6283 for details.

Babysitter training

The Wiesbaden American Red Cross offers babysitter training including child and infant CPR April 13 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Classroom 4 in Building 1032 on Wiesbaden Army Airfield (across from the post office). The cost is \$40. It is open to adolescents ages 11-17. Call mil 337-1760 or civ (0611) 705-1760 to sign up.

Abuse/assault prevention events

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program features various child abuse prevention and sexual assault awareness activities in April including Child Abuse Prevention Booths at the Hainerberg Food Court April 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 7 from 4:30-6 p.m. at Building 1502 on Wiesbaden Army Airfield, April 14 from 4:30-6 p.m. at Building 1501 on WAAF and April 20 from 4:30-6 p.m. at Building 7875 in Hainerberg Housing; a Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness **Booth** at the Hainerberg Food Court April 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; a Rock-a-Bye-Baby Fair April 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center; and Self-Defense Classes April 26 and 28 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the ACS cafeteria in Hainerberg Housing. All events are free.

Kudos to care provider

Wiesbaden's Joy Beam is the recipient of a Child Development Associate Credential in Family Child Care. She is the first person in Wiesbaden to earn the CDA for FCC and the sixth in Europe to hold one, according to Wiesbaden Child, Youth and School Services officials.

Aukamm Yard Sale

An Aukamm Housing community-wide yard sale will be held April 2. Items include toys, clothes, household goods, transformers, bikes and other items.

Easter events

Catholic Stations of the Cross services will be held Fridays at 6 p.m. through April 15 at Hainerberg Chapel. A penance service will be held March 30 at 6 p.m. at Hainerberg Chapel. Holy Week services at the Hainerberg Chapel include April 21 at 6 p.m., April 22 (Good Friday) April 22 at 5:30 p.m., April 23 at 7 p.m. and April 24 (Easter Sunday) at 9 a.m. Call the Religious Support Operations Office at civ (0611) 408-0248.

Marriage, spiritual fitness

Day-long Marriage Enrichment Seminars will be held April 5, May 10, June 28

and July 26. The seminars will be interactive and feature fun activities for couples (no death by Powerpoint). Renovare **Spiritual Formation Groups.** open to all Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox service members and families, will meet on the second floor of the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center from 1-2 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Wiesbaden Mothers of Preschoolers

The Wiesbaden Mothers of Preschoolers meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9-11 a.m. at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel. MOPS is designed to nurture mothers with children from pregnancy through kindergarten. Child care is provided on a space available basis. Email wiesbadenmops@gmail.comto reserve a spot.

Community outreach

The Wiesbaden Passport Office, in conjunction with

the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt, will be accepting report of birth and tourist passport applications from customers March 31 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Room 223, Building 1023E on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. Representatives from the Department of Homeland Security, Social Security and other consular benefits offices will be available as well. Visit www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/ news/CommunityOutreach.pdf for more information about what to bring to the event.

Job/Career Expo

Army Community Service hosts a Job and Career Expo March 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Community Activity Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. The event will feature university representatives, potential employers and experts to help with the job application process. Call Diane McManus at mil 335-5254 or civ (0611) 4080 234 for more information.

Chapel, ACS team up to assist individuals with financial readiness

By Gregg L Drew U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Director of Religious Education

Helping Soldiers and families not only now, but in the future are missions of the Religious Support Office and Army Community Service.

This is the second year these agencies have teamed up in Wiesbaden to provide a 13week course to help individuals with their finances. Dave Ramsey's Peace University based on financial wisdom from the Bible, will again be offered at the Wiesbaden Army

Airfield Chapel.

Kits, valued at \$100 each will be provided to attendees, thanks to sponsorship by the RSO with oversight from Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Steve Demien.

The financial readiness team from ACS, under the leadership of Leary Henry, will provide the financial expertise and facilitators to help participants learn the principles of the Dave Ramsey program.

Classes are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Currently more than 40 participants are learning what 254 or mil 335-5254.

it takes to be financially successful now and in the years leading up to retirement.

The chapel staff thanked Jacki Merritt, a volunteer and member of the Hainerberg Chapel community for dedicating her expert administrative support.

For more information concerning the classes or your personal finances, stop by the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel Monday evenings at 6 p.m. — or give Leary Henry a call at ACS at civ (0611) 4080-





More than 170 middle school students rehearse as part of the Heidelberg School District's Middle School Honor Band March 9 at Wiesbaden Middle

And the band plays



Twenty-one middle school student saxophone players rehearse as part of the Heidelberg School District's Middle School Honor Band performances March 9 at Wiesbaden Middle School.

Thirty-four middle school flute players rehearse with the honor band March 9.



Middle School Honor Band perfects thousands of note

Story and photos by Jennifer Clampet U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Ore than 170 middle school students from across the Heidelberg School District shared in some heavy sighs, tensed arm muscles and the occasional grimace from a screeching musical note.

Wiesbaden Middle School music director, Jena Hancock, grinned as the large group attempted to play "The Legend of Zorro" — a difficult piece with constantly changing meters and tempos.

The song — one of six songs the group would play together — needed work. A lot of work.

But Hancock just smiled. Nothing brings a group of students together like the daunting task of perfecting a thousand musical notes.

The 2011 Heidelberg School District Middle School Honor Band met, practiced and performed a concert all in the span of two days at the Wiesbaden Middle School March 9-10.

"It's just great to see another cello," said Wiesbaden sixth-grader Anisa Nash as she worked with sixth-grader Katie Viana, from Boeblingen Elementary/

Middle School, to tune their instruments — dark-stained three-quarter cellos.

The honor band had only four students who played the cello.

Nash and Viana shared a knowing smile as they lugged their miniature cellos back into the Wiesbaden Middle School auditorium.

At the end of a line of saxophone players, Robinson Barracks Elementary/Middle School seventh-grader Galvin McCall focused on his sheet music as the band directors — one from each school—took their turns leading the youths.

"I came last year and played the clarinet," said McCall, who now plays the tenor saxophone. "It's hard adjusting (to a new instrument) but this is fun."

The middle school honor band program is in its sixth year and has gotten bigger every year, said Hancock.

Rehearsals included master classes where students were given one-on-one instruction on some of the more difficult musical pieces.

The rows of instrument wielding students also included a few professionals from the 1st Armored Division Band, community members and high school students.

"It's a really music with how said Wiesbaden I grader Lauren saxophone playe As the group

through of the c 9, Brashear ad est part of playing an instrument and preparing for a concert was the practice 'playing the same song over and over again."

"It's boring when you practice alone, but in a group it makes it funagain," be said Mi Brashear.

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e School.

s for concert

fun combination of it all flows together," Middle School seventh-Brashear, a baritone

wrapped up its first runoncert program March mitted that the hard-



Middle school students Anisa Nash from Wiesbaden Middle School and Joey Barber, Katie Viana and Tana Putnam all from Stuttgart play their cellos during a March 9 rehearsal for the Heidelberg School District's Middle School Honor Band performances at Wiesbaden Middle School.



The Middle School Honor Band included eight students playing violins and three playing violas.



irty-one middle school trumpet players rehearse as part of the Heidelrg School District's Middle School Honor Band March 9 at Wiesbaden ddle School.

Season ends for

Hoops and cheer

Wiesbaden High School basketball and cheerleading squads closed their seasons in Mannheim Feb. 23-26 as several athletes were named to the All-Tournament teams.

Despite posting a perfect regular season record, the Lady Warriors finished third overall after defeating Ramstein 39-20.

Its sole loss of the season came at the hand of Patch High School, 41-31, in the semifinal round Feb. 26. Senior standouts

and sisters LeAmber and LeAndra Thomas received all-tournament honors.

The Warrior spirit leaders received Di-

The Warrior spirit leaders received Division I third-place honors at the DoDDS-Europe Cheer Championships.

And tumbler Joseph Griffith was named to the all-tournament team. The team was judge for a two-and-a-half-minute routine and on overall performance during the Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament.



Photos by Steve Kulmala

Wiesbaden High School senior LeAmber Thomas makes a grab during one of the final games for the Wiesbaden Lady Warriors at the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe Division I basketball championship.



Wiesbaden High School cheerleaders do stunts to motivate the crowd during halftime at a Warriors versus Lakenheath game Feb. 24 in Heidelberg.



Wiesbaden
High School
senior Tevin
Teal passes
the ball during a game for
the Wiesbaden Warriors varsity
boys team.



Kelly Colbert leads the break for a layup versus Lakenheath in Department of Defense Dependent Schools-Europe tournament play in Heidelberg Feb. 24. The Lady Warriors won 34-20. The Lady Warriors took home the third place consilation prize after defeating Ramstein.

Sports and leisure

By Donald Seltzer

U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Volksmarch Editor

Take a hike: A guide to volksmarching in the Baumholder/Wiesbaden area

Volksmarching notes

∠ Interested in volksmarching but not sure how things work? A basic guide to getting started is available by sending an email message to *volksmarch@gmail.* com with the subject "Getting Started." ∠ Look for additional event choices at www.wiesbaden.army.mil/hunion/Takeahike.htm.

Weekend of March 19-20

Frankfurt/Main-Bergen-Enkheim (60388) — This event offers trails for different abilities. The start hall is in the Enkheim area of Frankfurt, across the street from the Hessen Center shopping mall. The mall is at the western end of Autobahn 66 when coming from Hanau. From Aschaffenburg and Hanau take A-66 right to the shopping center. From elsewhere, readers will need to consult their maps carefully if using a route other than A-66. Drivers can use Autobahns 3 and 661 (northbound) to find directional signs to Bergen-Enkheim, then follow small, white IVV signs to the start.

Start: Volkshaus Enkheim at Borsigallee 40 Saturday: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 and 10 km), 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) and 7-11 a.m. (30 km) Sunday: 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) and 7-11 a.m. (30 km) Trails: Shorter trails are slightly hilly and stroller-friendly for the large-wheeled variety, longer trails are hillier; woods, fields and some city streets Award: From previous events.

Crolsheim (55459) — This walk is just south of Bingen. Use Autobahn 60 to pick up B-50 at Bingen, head south toward Bad Kreuznach and follow IVV signs to the start. From Wiesbaden and Mainz, use the St. Goar exit of A-60 to pick up B-9, then the Gensingen exit to connect with B-50.

Start: Neue Nahelandhalle on Aspisheimer Weg Satur-



day and Sunday: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7 a.m. to noon (20 and 30 km) Trails: Shorter trails are mostly flat, longer trails are hilly; fields, local neighborhoods and some woods Award: From previous events.

Trier-Ehrang (54293) — Wanderers will walk in the area surrounding Germany's oldest city of Trier as a reward for the time spent reaching this event. The garrisons' western-most communities will begin by heading toward Autobahn

1. From Baumholder connect at the town of Freisen, from Idar-Oberstein connect at Neubrücke by using B-41. Volksmarchers in Kaiserslautern, Ramstein and Landstuhl will use Autobahns 62, 1 and 602 to Trier. Trier-Ehrang has its own exit off of Autobahn 602 as drivers approach Trier. Watch carefully for IVV directional signs.

Start: Turnhalle at Oberstraße 8 in the Trier suburb of Ehrang Sunday: 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6, 11 and 20 km) Trail: Hilly, woods and fields Award: From previous events.

Weekend of March 26-27

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Hahnstätten (65623) — This event is directly south of Limburg and offers a marathon trail for participants. Use Autobahn 3's Bad Camberg exit and follow a secondary road through Beuerbach, Ohren, Kirberg and Kaltenholzhausen and Hahnstätten. IVV directional signs will take you through the nearby town of Lohrheim to the start.

Start: Bürgerhaus at Austrasse 5 Saturday and Sunday: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km), 7 a.m. ⁴ to 1 p.m. (20 km) and 7-9 a.m. (42 km) Trail: Fairly hilly, woods Award: Set of three candle-lights (shorter trails) or patch and certificate (marathon)

This scenic walk is just down the road from Idar-Oberstein and easily

reached. From Idar-Oberstein use B-41 toward Bad Kreuznach to reach the start at Kirn-Sulzbach; from Wiesbaden use Autobahn A-60 to Bad Kreuznach and continue west on B-41.

Start: Gasthaus Collet at Oldenburgerstr. 2 Saturday: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (20 km) Sunday:7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7 a.m. to noon (20 km) Trails: Hilly, fields and woods Award: None.

Weekend of April 2-3

Ludwigshafen-Pfingstweide (67069) — Trails at past events brought participants along the banks of the Rhine river. From the central portion of USAG Hessen use Autobahn 67 south to the Viernheimer Dreieck. Take Autobahn 6 toward Ludwigshafen, exit at Ludwigshafen-Nord and follow IVV signs to the start. From Mainz, head south on Autobahn 61 to pick up Autobahn 6 eastbound and, as above, exit at Ludwigshafen-Nord.

Start: Gemeinschaftshaus on Budapesterstraße in the Ludwigshafen suburb of Pfingstweide Saturday and Sunday: 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) Trails: Flat, mostly stroller-friendly fields and riverbank trails Award: Decorative Easter Rabbit-themed wall hanging.

Weekend of April 9-10

Hattenhof (36119) — Volksmarchers will find picturesque walking and cycling trails both days. From Fulda use B-27 south to Rothemann and a secondary road leading to Hattenhof. From

Hanau and points west take the Fulda-Süd exit of Autobahn 7 to head toward Rothemann and Hattenhof.

Start: Bürgerhaus on Kerzeller Strasse Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (20 km, plus cycling) Sunday: 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km, plus cycling) Trails: Fairly hilly, woods and fields Award: From previous events.

Amelia Earhart productions/auditions

The Wiesbaden Amelia Earhart Playhouse features the monastery comedy "Incorruptible" through March 26. Performances are Wednesday to Saturday starting at 7:30 p.m. The Playhouse also features a



Blue and Gold event

Cub and Webelo Scouts from Pack 13 are recognized by scout leaders Karen and Neil Ravensbergen during a Blue and Gold Banquet. Community members are invited to join the fun at the Scouts Pinewood Derby March 19 at 10 a.m. at the Tony Bass Fitness Center.

Things to do ... Things to do

Shakespeare acting workshop, taught by professional film and stage actor Jonathon Lamer, March 28 at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to everyone age 18 and older. The Amelia Earhart Playhouse

holds auditions for its upcoming production of the comedy/drama "Prelude To A Kiss" March 29 and 30 from 7-9:30 p.m. Performances will be in early June. Call civ (0611) 816-2473.

Spring Festival

Baumholder's Child, Youth and School Services holds a Children's Spring Fest April 2 from 1-4 p.m. for ages 2-12 at the Hall of Champions. The Wizard of Oz-themed event is free and open to all ID cardholders. The Rheinland-Pfalz Polizei Puppet Show will be presented at the Wagon Wheel Theatre at 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. that day. Call Debra Hathaway at mil 485-6756 or 7003.

USO trips

In addition to featuring tango, swing and salsa dance lessons; German, Spanish and ballet classes, the Rhein Main Area USOs offer the following trips: Trier by train March 19, medieval Rothenburg March 19, Ladenburg by train March 19, Neuschwanstein Castle and Füssen March 20, hidden Heidelberg March 26, Battle of the Bulge March 26, Rhein River cruise March 27.

Hamburg harbor tour April 2, Weinheim by train April 5, Prague Easter Market April 9, Amsterdam express April 9, Evelin's Wellness Paradise and Bingen April 9, Riesling Route with Eric the Red April 10 and the Frankfurt Zoo April 12. Stop by the USOs in Hainerberg, the Frankfurt Airport or on Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

Luck of the Draw

The Wiesbaden Senior Parent Association features a Texas Hold'em and Bunco Night March 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center. Email wiesbadsenpa@googlemail.com for details.

Piano/cello concert

The Trinity Lutheran Church Frankfurt (Nibelungenallee 54) features a concert by cellist Wan-Ning Huang and pianist Dr. Jerrode March to benefit Frankfurt's Messiah Project March 19 at 5 p.m. The concert is free, but donations will be accepted to support the project to bring different nationalities in the Rhein-Main area to perform Handel's "Messiah" in the original English. Visit www.the-messiah-project.org for details.

'Beauty and the Beast'

The English Theater Frankfurt presents the Theater Unlimited production of "Beauty and the Beast" March 26, 27, April 2, 3, 9 and 10 at 2 p.m. Call civ (069) 2423 1620 or visit www. english-theatre.org.

'Tell me a story'

The Parent-to-Parent organization presents a "Tell me a story" literacy event March 27 at 3 p.m. at the Hainerberg Elementary School Multipurpose Room. A reading of "How to Bake an American Pie" will be featured.

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Sports and leisure

Black History event tests boxer mettle



Story and photos by **Chrystal Smith** U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Local sports fans celebrated Black History Month by taking in boxing action Feb. 26 at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center where 31 boxers stood ready to let the gloves fly.

Once the bell sounded to start the evening's 12th and final bout, an eager Lashon Bush, Wiesbaden, unleashed a barrage of blows stunning Wahan Simontan, Freigericht, in the first round.

"I wanted to exert myself early, get him to open his lungs and finish him early," said Bush who said the bout was the first and final bout of his boxing career.

Outstanding boxer of the night went to middleweight boxer Rusmir Arnautovic, Freigericht, for skillfully outpointing Tyrone Lindsey in the fifth bout of the evening. Arnautovic remained composed and in control at the sight of a massive and strong contender. Arnautovic stayed ahead by delivering well-calculated combinations to win the decision over the Grafenwöhr boxer.

Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Prince recognized early that Daine Watson,

Wiesbaden, was under matched by his opponent George Patt in the second heavyweight bout of the night. The garrison leader cheered Watson on, cautioning him not to severely hurt the Hohenfels boxer, "Don't hurt him man. ... Take it easy," yelled Prince from his ringside seat.

According to Andre Herren, sports specialist, the tournament is a longstanding tradition of the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. He said the objective of the evening was to increase cultural awareness of the contributions African and black Americans have made to the sport of boxing. Boxers and boxing fans can look forward to more boxing action in observance of Independence Day when Wiesbaden

Sports and Fitness hosts a novice and open boxing tournament. Contact the fitness center at mil 337-5541 or civ (0611) 705-5541 for more information. In other action: Featherweight — Derek Ford, Hohenfels, outpointed Michael Earl, Hohenfels; Light Welterweight - Savva Tonannidis, Freigericht, outpointed Kristopher Janke. Hohenfels: Welterweight - Kristopher Knight outpointed Artem Kamalov, Vokel Air Base; Middleweight



Lester Cannon catches Jamal Gates on the chin in Middleweight action. Photo above left: Eulojio Fuentes ducks under a left from Cifci Coskun and just misses with a right.

Freigericht; Jamal Bates outpointed Lester Cannon, Wiesbaden: Soheil Azougagh. Freigericht, stopped Josue Toledano, Schweinfurt; Light Heavyweight — Orlando Arroyvega outpointed Rodrick Sellers. Schweinfurt; Heavyweight - Vicente Heredia, Hohenfels, outpointed Ruben Marin, Wiesbaden; Rubin Stackhouse, Wiesbaden, outpointed Alexs Gutierrez, Schweinfurt: Uncontested: Dustin Reed James Revell and Tracie Yamauchi, Wiesbaden; Nadine Kaus, Kristinan Markovic and Tufan Soleymanpour, Freigericht; and Antonio Feagins, Kaiserslautern.

Sports shorts

Fitness and health fair

The Wiesbaden Fitness Center offers a wealth of Comprehensive Community Health opportunities March 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. including fitness class demos, massage therapy, a nutritionist on site, weightlifting and basketball competitions and a half marathon. Call civ (0611) 705-5541.

Skeet shooting

The Wiesbaden Hunting, Fishing and Sport Shooting program holds skeet shooting March 18 from 2-5 p.m. Meet at the Outdoor Recreation Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. An HFSS Advisory Council Meeting will be held at the Wiesbaden Entertainment Center at 7 p.m. April 5. Call civ (0611) 705-5760.

Rolling Hills open

Baumholder's Rolling Hills Golf Course driving range is open for practice. Call mil 485-7299.

Free golf

Free golf will be offered for ID cardholders at Wiesbaden's Rheinblick Golf Course through March 31 during the annual membership drive. Call civ (0611) 5059 2718 for details.

Track coaches needed

Wiesbaden High School seeks individuals interested in helping coach track and field. For more information email David.Eidem@eu.dodea.edu.

FRG Volleyball League

A free volleyball league holds league play starting April 4. Sign up by March 28 at Baumholder's Hall of Champions. The event is for adults age 18 and older. Call mil 485-7176 for details.

Learn-to-swim classes

Baumholder's Aquatics Center offers various learn-to-swim classes for youths and adults. Lifeguard training courses and water aerobics are also available. Call mil 485-7093 for more information.

Inline hockey players sought

The Baden Bruins Army hockey team seeks new players and for its expansion team, the Province Bruins. Inline season starts April 1. Contact Ken Robinson at info@badenbruins. com to get involved.

Fishing courses

Wiesbaden's Hunting, Fishing and Sport Shooting program offers U.S. Forces fishing courses May 16-20, July 18-22, Sept. 19-23 and Nov. 14-18. Cost is \$60 per person or \$75 per family. Call civ (0611) 705-5760 for details.

Helping Soldiers adjust to garrison

Euloiio Fuente outpointed Cifci Coskun.

U.S. Årmy Garrison Wiesbaden Public Affairs Office

Gearing down a high-powered sports car abruptly can cause major damage to its well-designed engine.

The same is true for Soldiers returning from downrange with a heightened state of intensity to the calm of home

This is a current reality for 1st Armored Division troops in Wiesbaden who are using the Warrior Adventure Quest Program to make the gradual shift.

"You're going from 100 mph to 30 mph," said Staff Sgt. Jorge Sierra, Company A, 1st AD G2, who has deployed to Iraq four times since 2003 and took part in a recent session of WAQ paintball with his unit at the Rheinblick Recreation Complex in Wiesbaden.

The program is a welcome alternative for the 10-year veteran who re-



Photo Chrystal Smith

A 1st Armored Division Soldier enjoys paintball at the Rheinblick Recreation Complex.

membered how his units were affected after deployments before the existence of WAQ.

'It seems like we had a lot more Soldier issues because there weren't things to look forward to," said Sierra. "There really wasn't much to do. You had to kind of be creative. These programs really help to keep issues at their lowest levels."

The program fuses high-adrenaline and high-intensity sporting activities with leader-led debriefing tools to teach Soldiers coping skills for managing combat experiences with the hope of decreasing the likelihood of non-battle injuries or deaths.

The program has been successful so far in Wiesbaden as more than 350 Soldiers have cycled through the program facilitated by Outdoor Recreation.

"It introduces them to a program

they may not have been aware of as a healthy outlet for relieving stress," said Shelly Hake, Wiesbaden ODR director, who said she has seen firsthand the effect WAQ activities has on Soldiers after participating. "They feel empowered afterwards.'

Units can contact ODR at mil 337-5760 to schedule such activities as paintball, indoor shooting, bouldering, skiing, snowboarding or mountain biking.

School bits

Centralized registration

All Baumholder schools will hold a centralized spring pre-registration March 28 to April 1 at the Baumholder Middle High's Information Center (library) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (extended until 7 p.m. March 31). If you have a returning student bring any extension orders plus any address, phone or emergency contact information that may have changed during the year. If you think your family will be leaving during the summer and do not have orders in hand, still pre-register your children. Orders change and administrators must ensure that enough classes and teachers are available for the 2011-2012 school year. (Courtesy of the Baumholder Middle High School Parent Newsletter)

Smith Elementary early dismissal

Smith Elementary School students will be released at 11:01 a.m. March 25 (no lunch will be served).

Salute to Education

Dr. Paul Harris, associate director of the Auburn University Honors College, will talk about attaining educational goals at the Flyers Theater on Wiesbaden Army Airfield March 17 from noon to 1:45 p.m. The event will also offer a chance to meet with education representatives to learn about upcoming courses in Wiesbaden, financial aid and more. Free food and drinks will also be provided.

SAC meeting

Baumholder Middle High School's School Advisory Committee meets April 5 at 4 p.m. at the school.

Middle school events

Wiesbaden Middle School holds a Fine Arts/Encore Night from 4:30-6 p.m. March 24. There will be no school for students March 25 during a teacher in-service day. The Wiesbaden Middle School National Junior Honor Society will be collecting toiletries for Soldiers through the month of March. Contact the school at mil 335-5373.

Big Bucks Bingo

Wiesbaden High School holds a Big Bucks Crystal Bingo competition March 25 at 6 p.m. Proceeds benefit continuing education for graduating seniors. Email *Tammie.L.Stouter@usace.army.mil* for more information.

Items for Soldiers

Wiesbaden's Class of 2014 is holding an activity drive for Soldiers stationed in remote locations in Afghanistan. Donations sought include games, entertainment, hobby and crafts items. Contact Stacy Nielson at *stacy.nielsen@eu.dodea.edu* for details.

UofM registration

The University of Maryland University College Europe holds registration for classes through March 20 with classes set to begin March 21. Registration for online classes starting April 4 continues through April 3. Students can also apply for savings through the university's book award programs. Visit www.ed.umuc.edu or your local Education Center.

Central Texas classes

Central Texas College in Wiesbaden is offering evening and weekend courses in criminal justice, automotive and early childhood professions during the upcoming term — March 28 to May 20. Register now through March 18. Online classes, including Microsoft certification preparation, are also available. Call civ (0611) 705-5561, visit the Education Center in Building 1023E on Wiesbaden Army Airfield or send an email to Wiesbaden@europe.ctcd.edu for more information.

Scout promotes recycling

One of the final steps to obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout is to "plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project."

Past projects for Eagle Scouts have involved building fences, clearing trails or organizing a food drive for a homeless shelter.

Benny Falling, a junior at Wiesbaden High School, focused his Eagle project on helping his school to recycle.

With the assistance of high school video teacher Joe Smith, Falling set out to make an entertaining yet instructional video entitled "Recycle! Make it a Point!"

The video will be shown during seminar time to all high school students. As someone who preferred to be behind the camera, Benny enlisted Eagle Scout Carl Ravensbergen and his sister, Venture Scout Amanda Ravensbergen, as actors in the search for the truth about recycling.

Included in the 10-minute video are on-the-street interviews with high school students and staff and question-and-answers with Directorate of Public Works environmental engineer Peter Zeisberger.

The film dispels many misconceptions about recycling and explains that sorting trash is



Boy Scout Benny Falling works behind the camera in creating a recycling video as part of his Eagle Scout Project.

mandatory according to German law, and that it really does make a difference.

Trash does not all go to the same place — a common rumor that Falling heard circulating in the community.

Recycling paper, for instance, actually brings in money to the Army because the Army receives a rebate for paper the community recycles. The Army can also be fined if the trash is not sorted correctly.

Falling's four-part plan goes beyond just talking about recycling.

Benny received financial support from the Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club to purchase recycling containers for the school to make it easier to sort trash and to purchase pencils engraved with "Recycle!

Make it a Point!" for each high school student as a reminder to recycle.

In order to promote recycling through the media, Benny recruited the assistance of Wiesbaden firstgrade students who starred in the three commercials about

recycling.

Two of the "Recycle! It's So Easy Even a First-Grader Can Do It!" commercials were chosen to be shown during this year's Super Bowl on the American Forces Network and can be viewed at www.youtube.com/afnyoudoit2011.

"Your efforts to make these points and to get your teachers and fellow students to sort their waste will contribute in making our community a better place to live, work and go to school," said Col. Jeffrey Dill, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander, in a letter to Falling.

Falling is hoping his efforts will spark interest in a high school Environmental Club.

"We contribute to the problem and we can contribute to the solution," said Falling.



Photo by Jameelah Arcila

In character

Wiesbaden High School senior Ashley Wiser (left) and freshman Ben Gonzales star as Agatha Christie and Edgar Allan Poe in the Wiesbaden High School drama department's production of "Murder by the Book" March 5 at the high school. Audience members were treated to a humorous mystery that featured several historic literary figures trying to solve a series of murders.

Students fundraise for field biology trip

By Ashley Wiser Wiesbaden High School senior

In May, 14 Wiesbaden High School marine biology students will spend five days in Culebra, Puerto Rico, working with endangered leatherback sea turtles.



The U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife will train students to conduct field studies on the nesting sites and conduct a variety of other activities related to field biology.

The total cost of the trip is \$16,885. To help fund the trip, students will bag groceries at the commissary March 21 from 3-9 p.m. and April 1 from 3-9 p.m. The group will also offer a 10-kilometer walk-a-thon to the Rhein River. And Wiesbaden high school students and teachers can stop by the marine biology room to purchase breakfast beverages and snacks in the morning.

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Bulletin board







Mark Wahlberg (left) and Christian Bale star as boxing brothers in "The Fighter."

At the movies March 17-31

Baumholder, Wagon Wheel

March 18 — Rango (PG) 7 p.m.

March 19 — Season Of The Witch (PG-13) 4 p.m. The Fighter (R) 7 p.m.

March 20 — Just Go With It (PG-13) 6 p.m.

March 25 — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 7 p.m.

March 26 — Big Momma's: Like Father, Like Son (PG-13) 4 p.m. The Dilemma (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 27 — Country Strong (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Taunus

March 17 — Season Of The Witch (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 18 — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 7 p.m. The Fighter (R) 9:30 p.m.

March 19 — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 4 p.m. The Dilemma (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Fighter

(R) 9:30 p.m.

March 20 — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 4 p.m. The Dilemma (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 21 — Mars Needs Moms (PG) 7 p.m.

March 22 — The Fighter (R) 7 p.m.

March 23 — The Dilemma (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 24 — The Fighter (R) 7 p.m.

March 25 — Country Strong (PG-13) 7 p.m. Paul (R) 9:30 p.m.

March 26 — Yogi Bear (PG) 4 p.m. True Grit (PG-13) 7 p.m. Paul (R) 9:30 p.m.

March 27 — The Chronicles Of Narnia: The Voyage Of The Dawn Treader (PG) 4 p.m. Paul (R) 7 p.m.

March 28 — Paul (R) 7 p.m.

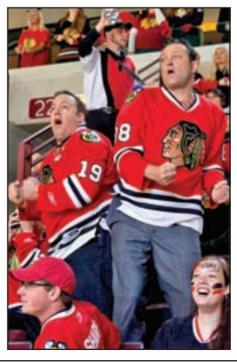
March 29 — Country Strong (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 30 — True Grit (PG-13) 7 p.m.

March 31 — Country Strong (PG-13) 7 p.m.



Gwyneth Paltrow plays a country singer in "Country Strong." Photo right: Vince Vaughn (right) and Kevin James team up in the comedy, "The Dilemma," about two best friends and business parters — one married and the other a bachelor who suspects his best friend's wife is seeing another man.



Movie plots

The Fighter (R) — Inspired by a true story, this is a look at the stirring comeback tale of the unlikely boxing hero, "Irish" Micky Ward (Mark Wahlberg), and his halfbrother, Dicky Eklund (Christian Bale). They had to come apart as opponents before coming together as brothers in a scrappy fight to win a long-shot championship and strengthen the bonds of their family.

The Dilemma (PG-13) — Since college. confirmed bachelor Ronny and happily married Nick have been through thick and thin. Now partners in an auto design firm, the two pals are vying to land a dream project that would launch their company. With Ronny's girlfriend, Beth, and Nick's wife, Geneva, by their sides, they're unbeatable. But, Ronny's world is turned upside down when he inadvertently sees Geneva out with another man and makes it his mission to get answers. Stars Vince Vaughn, Kevin James, Jennifer Connelly and Winona Ryder.

Country Strong (PG-13) — Soon after a rising young singer-songwriter (Garrett Hedlund) gets involved with a fallen, emotionally unstable country star (Gwyneth Paltrow), the pair embarks on a career resurrection tour helmed by her husband/ manager (Tim McGraw) and featuring a beauty-queen-turned-singer (Leighton Meester). Between concerts, romantic entanglements and old demons threaten to derail them all.

Paul (R) — Simon Pegg and Nick Frost reunite in this comedy adventure as two sci-fi geeks whose pilgrimage takes them to America's UFO heartland. While there, they accidentally meet an alien who brings them on an insane road trip that alters their universe forever.

Mars Needs Moms (PG) — Take out the trash, eat your broccoli — who needs moms, anyway? Nine-year-old Milo (Seth Green) finds out just how much he needs his mom (Joan Cusack) when she's nabbed by Martians who plan to steal her mom-ness for their own young.

Rango (PG) — A sheltered chameleon, living as an ordinary family pet, faces a major identity crisis in this animated film. After all, how high can you aim when your whole purpose in life is to blend in? When Rango accidentally winds up in the gritty, gun-slinging town of Dirt — a lawless outpost populated by the desert's most wily and whimsical creatures — the less-than-courageous lizard suddenly finds he stands out. Welcomed as the last hope the town has been waiting for, new Sheriff Rango is forced to play his new role to the hilt. Stars the voices of Johnny Depp, Abigail Breslin and Isla



RECYCLING MADE EASY

Bv A.L. Shaff

Contributing writer

Recycling contributes to saving the environment, and Germany has succeeded grandly with its fight against growing mountains of garbage. But for many Americans living here, recycling can seem like a confusing task and just a big bother

However, some easy guidelines exist that can quickly turn any newcomer into a recycling expert. A major part of the success of this program involves the proper sorting of garbage. So, this is where the lesson starts.

OK, what to do with glass? Any kind of bottle or glass iar that is non-returnable and on which you paid no deposit goes into the color-coded glass bins down the street.

This includes wine bottles, jam/preserve jars, oil bottles, and juice bottles. But, ceramics, china, mirrors and wine corks never go into the trash

First, sort the bottles by color. Different slots take green, brown or clear glass, so the glass must be deposited into the right slots.

Almost every German neighborhood provides these giant containers just down the street or around the corner.

Your green, blue, yellow, brown and gray plastic household trash cans stand at your doorstep with the color of the lid indicating the can's use.

It's important to note that not all municipalities use the same system. For example, you may not find a brown or yellow can at your doorstep.

In the absence of a yellow can, put plastic materials into the yellow plastic bag (Gelbe Sack) and place it outside for pick up on scheduled days. You can get the bags at various places in the community, most often from the town hall. Paper that goes in the blue container includes all packaging made of paper and cardboard, newspapers, magazines, waste paper, or paper bags.

You need to flatten boxes before putting them in the container, and make sure you throw only the box into the can and not the plastic wrappers inside the box.

OK, moving on to the yellow sacks. Cans, plastic, polystyrene, aluminum, tinplate and "composite" materials like beverage cartons made of a mixture of materials should be put in the yellow

Empty spray cans also are allowed here. You are not supposed to stuff things together, like the yogurt cup inside the baked beans tin can.

Since this junk gets sorted by hand, please rinse the cans and cups before throwing them into the

Now you are left with the "other stuff" and biological waste, which is anything destined for the compost heap in a good gardener's back yard.

This includes kitchen scraps, peels, leftover food, coffee filters, tea bags and garden waste. If you live in a house, you probably will have a separate brown can for this waste.

The end result of bio recycling is either energy

through the natural fermenting gasses, which is captured and utilized, or garden compost.

So this is good stuff to recycle though it may stink at times. Good news is that the brown cans get emptied more often during the summer months. If you own no separate brown can and you don't feel like farming a personal compost heap, you can throw the bio stuff into your gray household waste bin including ashes, cigarette butts, old household objects like frying pans, textiles and nylon stockings, diapers, tissues, and other hygiene items.

Everything in the gray cans eventually gets burned. Now that you know where everything goes, you need only to know when to put the right can or bag out for collection.

On designated days for garbage collection, remember to find which garbage can to put out.

Easy method: wait until your German neighbors roll out their bins then match their color(s)!

Then, we have the problem of "hazardous" waste. This kind of waste includes florescent bulbs, batteries and acids, cans of old paint, thinners, adhesives, corrosives, insecticides — stuff that must be treated as dangerous.

Such hazardous waste can't end up in the other trash cans because it can release dangerous gasses when incinerated

Be aware of bulletins from the local government about pick up times for such materials. Usually, a truck will show up for a special collection, so you'll need to bring the stuff to that central point.

However, you can deposit batteries safely at a local grocery store (Aldi or Penny) or a large shopping market such as Globus or Kaufland.

Look for the specially marked box or bin, or show the clerk the dead batteries and ask for the disposal box.

If you just don't know where or when to dump something, and you're sure no one will want to buy it at a local Flohmarkt(flea market), look for times to place it on the curb for pick up.

Such materials might include an old sofa, the ripped-out kitchen sink, chairs, or extra lumber from your renewal project.

Don't worry that you're dumping "stuff" on the street because, in reality, most of the stuff set out this way is scarfed up by collectors who drive around neighborhoods looking to fill their vans before the municipal trucks arrive.

Yeah, all of this sorting means extra work. Think of it as your small contribution to saving the world as you prevent garbage rather than create it. Try shopping at the local German markets with a small basket in hand, take one of the commissary cloth bags and avoid buying food in heavy packaging.

Pack food in reusable containers for the fridge; look for the Green Dot on products since the producers pay a recycling fee to help fund the program.

Before long, you'll fit right in with the Germans as they treasure their countryside, their country and our planet!



WHAT BELONGS WHERE?

BROWN CAN (BIOLOGICAL WASTE)

Kitchen waste: old bread, eggs shells, coffee powder and filters, food leftovers, tealeaves and tea filters

Fruit and vegetables: peels, apple cores, leaves, nutshells, fruit stones and pips, lettuce leaves

Garden waste: soil, hedge trimmings, leaves, grass clippings, weeds, dead flowers, and twigs

Other: feathers, hair, kitchen towels, tissues, sawdust, and straw

BLUE CAN (PAPER)

Envelopes, books, catalogues, illustrations, cartons, writing pads, brochures, writing paper, school books, washing detergent cartons without plastic, newspapers, paper boxes

YELLOW CAN OR BAGS (PLASTIC, ETC)

Aluminum foil, plastic wrap, inside packaging materials

Tins, cans, liquids refill sachets/bags, yogurt cups, body lotion bottles

Plastic bags, margarine tubs, milk sachets, plastic packaging trays for fruit and vegetables, screw-top bottle tops, detergent bottles, carry bags, vacuum packaging, dishwashing liquid bottles

GRAY CAN (HOUSEHOLD WASTE)

Ashes, wire, carbon paper, electrical appliances, bicycle tubes, photos, broken glass, bulbs, chewing gum, personal hygiene articles, nails, porcelain, rubber, plastic ties, broken mirrors, vacuum cleaner bags, street sweeping dirt, carpeting pieces, diapers, cigarette butts, miscellaneous waste

(Our thanks to the American Women's Club of Cologne)

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Breaking the nicotine habit:

Help someone else quit smoking using proven four-step process

By Kristen Marquez

Heidelberg Medical Department Activity Public Affairs Office

tobacco products is a big step be a huge motivator. for anyone who smokes or uses smokeless tobacco.

Friends, family and co- help them stick to it. workers can help someone they eral ways.

made easier with the help of a fight cravings in tough times. simple four-step process.

Step 1: Thinking about quitting many people as possible about

- decision, not anyone else's, so it is important to be supportive, **Step 3:** but not pushy.
- Choose the right time to be it up themselves.
- need.

Step 2: Preparing to quit

- · Helpers who smoke themwith the friend they are trying to ing to quit. Deciding to quit using help. Having a "quit buddy" can
- know to quit smoking in sev- fessional support to help them along the way. Doing a little bit According to www.ucan- of research on the effects of nicquit2.org, helping someone otine withdrawal could provide quit smoking or dipping can be the knowledge to help them
 - · Remove all tobacco-related products from their home and car.
 - Encourage them to tell as • Quitting needs to be their their goal of quitting.

Ouitting

• Compliment them on their encouraging. The most oppor- efforts. Positive feedback is a tune times are when they bring big help and always appreciated. Have they considered a • Don't give up or get frus- reward system for themselves? trated. Give them the time they Rewards can help them make it past everyday obstacles instead

of just working toward the big age them to start a quit journal milestone at the end.

- Don't use tobacco products
- · Spend time having fun. Try to avoid places that may Step 4: • Help them pick a quit date encourage tobacco use. Instead, **Staying smoke-free** that is right for them, and then participate in physical activities

or blog.

selves should consider quitting in front of a friend who is try- are not failures — they are just time. Be ready to offer nonpart of the process.

or play games. Go for a walk, them. Every tobacco-free mile- features a 24/7 chat service • Suggest medications or pro- fix a healthy snack or encour- stone can be a reason to celebrate. with tobacco cessation coaches.

· Remember that for many people, quitting completely • Be understanding. Setbacks can take several attempts over judgmental encouragement and support.

Live help is available online • Celebrate successes with at www.ucanquit2.org, which







- » The only brewery in K-Town
- » Home brewed beer
- » Seasonal beer
- » Next to the famous Stiftskirche (12th century)
- » The best typical German food in town





Brauhaus am Markt Stiftsplatz 2-3 · Kaiserslautern • www.brauhausammarkt-kl.de







Wiesbaden: Point your children in the right direction ... and when they're older they won't be lost! Youth Activities



Child Development Associate Credential recognition

Family Child Care (FCC) provider Joy Beam celebrate with children in her home. Ms. Beam is the first FCC provider in Wiesbaden to receive the distinguished Child Development Associate Credential recognition.



Kid's News

Lauren Hinson and Connor Raley visit American Forces Network (AFN) Wiesbaden studio to film a segment of Kid's News March 9. The Kid's News experience is more than a field trip to AFN studio's, it provides valuable insight into professional radio and television broadcasting plus the opportunity to meet local AFN radio and television staff. Also in the picture, Hainerberg School Age Center staff member David Kent.



Performing Partnership program

Wiesbaden High School students Arman and Evin Alarilla took part in another presentation of Wiesbaden's CYS Service Performing Partnership program March 8. Arman and Evin visited the Hainerberg School Age Center. This was much more than just entertainment for children. Arman and Evin developed their presentation skills while mentoring the School Age Center children. They even took time to sign autographs for their fans.





Band program

Wiesbaden Middle school hosted the Heidelberg District Middle school honors band program on 9 and 10 March. The pictures feature members of the horn section.

Herald Union Page 24 March 17, 2011www.wiesbaden.army.mil

"Iggy" Rubalcava

Children from Mackenzie Flores' third grade class at Smith Elementary School listen attentively as Lt. Col. Sam McAdoo, U.S. Army Garrison commander, reads to them from a Dr. Suess book March 4. The commander was joined by Command Sgt. Major Early Reddock, U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder command sergeant major, in reading to children in observance of Read Across America Day and Dr. Suess' birthday, which is actually March 2.



Children from Ellena Baker's second grade class at Smith Elementary School enjoy a reading session March 4 with U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder Command Sgt. Major Earla Reddock. The sergeant major and Lt. Col. Sam McAdoo, USAG Baumholder commander, spend the morning reading to first, second and third grade students as part of a program that combines celebrating Dr. Suess' birthday, which is actually March 2 and Read Across America Day.

Baumholder "Home of Champions











Let's dance

Children at Wetzel Elementary School are treated to a musical performance by Touch N' Go, a composite of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band from Sembach Air Base. Officials from the band contacted Wetzel and asked if they could perform for the children as part of the band's effort to support family members of deployed Soldiers.

Band members also deploy and perform for Soldiers and other military members down range. Their performance at Wetzel brought the children to their feet on several occasions and inspired spontaneous dancing by children and teachers.

Several students also rushed the stage and danced along with the band. Ruth Jimenez, a teacher at Wetzel Elementary School thanked the band after their performance and for providing the students an excellent form of stress relief.





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BRAIN **TEASER**

The Passwords

A man worked for a high-security institution, and one day he went in to work only to find that he could not log in to his computer terminal. His password wouldn't work. Then he remembered that the passwords are reset every month for security purposes. So he went to his boss and they had this conversation:

Man: "Hey boss, my password is out of date"

Boss: "Yes, that's right. The password is different, but if you listen carefully you should be able to figure out the new one: It has the same amount of letters as your old password, but only four of the letters are the same."

Man: "Thanks boss."

With that, he went and correctly logged into his station. What was the new password? BONUS: What was his old password?

"Out of date." And the boss told him the new one when he said: "The password is different Answer: The old one was : Out of date | The new one is: Different | He said: My password is



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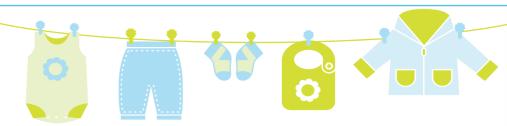
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Christyana AnnMarie Hamilton

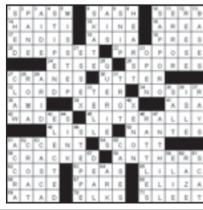
Christyana AnnMarie Hamilton was born at 10:14 a.m. Feb. 10 at the Dr. Horst Schmidt Klinik in Wiesbaden, Germany. She was 6 pounds and 19 inches long. Christyana AnnMarie was born to Laurie and Patrick Hamilton. The family is stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany.

Birth Announcement

Send your birth announcement to the Herald Union. Include your baby's name, time and date of birth, name, weight and length, parents' first and last names, and the place where your family is stationed, along with a JPEG photo. Send information to: pictures@herald-union.com

rossword Puzzle

13 17 20 36 50



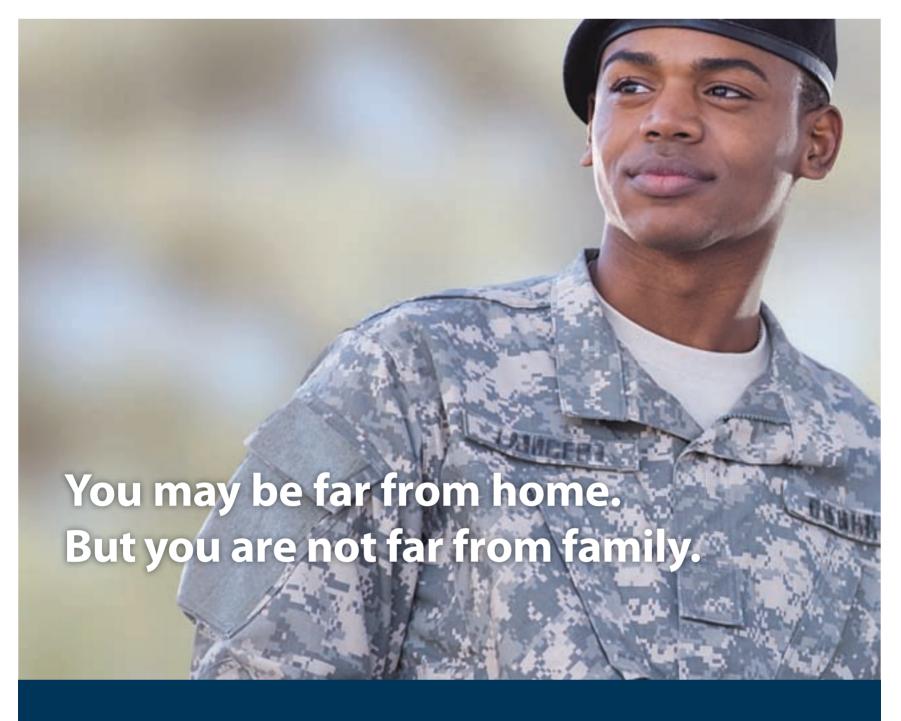
This is the solution to the crossword puzzle from March 3!

DOWN

- 1. European chain
- 2. Perfume ingredient
- Hunter's quarry
- 4. Lay low
- 5. Mythical weeper
- 6. Hither and
- "Orinoco Flow" singer
- 8. Sound of music?
- 9. Cold-shouldered
- 10. Happening by chance
- 11. Flying saucer flier
- 12. Measure, old-style
- 15. Judges
- 18. Unpleasantly moist
- 22. Down-home bird?
- 24. Icelandic literary classic
- 26. "Believe" singer
- 27. Incarnation of Vishnu
- "Love Story" author 28.
- 30. Frolics
- 32. NATO, for one
- 34. Composer Satie
- Fill to the gills 35
- 37. Whoopi, in "The Color Purple"
- 38. Loco
- 41. Inexpensive lodgings
- 43. Shipping obstacle
- Make certain 46. Prevaricator
- 47. Do
- Cloth fold 49.
- 50 Pop in Paris
- 51. Arabian bigwig
- 53. Lollapalooza
- 54. Draws to a close
- Badlands Natl. Park locale 55.
- 58. Hosts, for short

ACROSS

- 1. Current units
- 5. Putin's refusal
- Con job
- 13. Hide furtively
- 14. Aegean area
- 16. Can you dig it?
- Assumed names
- 19. Army group
- 20. Seventies space station
- 21. No-show
- 23. Baby bouncer?
- 25. Restrain
- 26. Fishing spot
- 29. Fine porcelain
- 31. Stony
- 32. "Much About Nothing"
- 33. Rushlike plants
- 36. Brit. record label
- 37. Scramble
- 39 Geologic division
- 40 One of TV's Friends
- seul (dance solo)
- 43 Foul mood
- 44. Most sacred
- 46. Potato pancake
- 47. Legendary Irish bard
- 48 Recreational drive
- Make-believe
- 52. Dippers
- 56. Advantageous position
- Wide waistband
- 59. Money of Iran
- 60. Heather genus
- 61. "M*A*S*H" actor
- 62. Sargasso Sea swimmers
- 63. Formerly, formerly
- 64. Kennedy's Secretary of State



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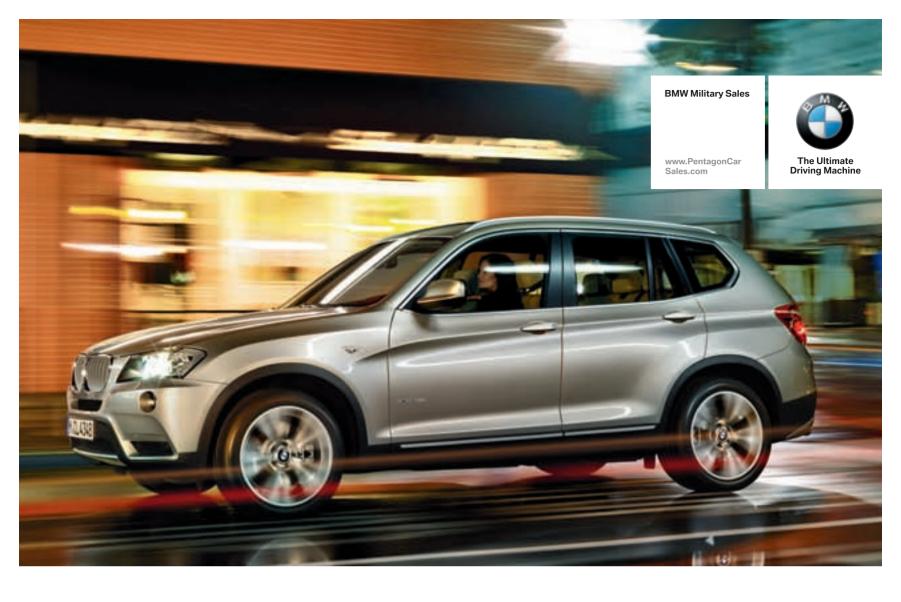
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